

REBEL INK

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# LISTEN UP!

The Editor  
Has Something  
to Say!

We took some serious heat over not delivering Jake and Josh Harris from the "Deadliest Catch" in the last issue. Well, like the boys in Every Time I Die say—"crap" happens. This time out, we make good on our promise and deliver the Brothers of the Bering Sea in a killer layout/interview feature.

Speaking of Every Time I Die—Keith and his metalcore cohorts expose their mark-ups for the masses in a shoot that took place before they hit the stage at a NYC show. Meanwhile, across the river to the Garden State, we spent the day with Wes of the "Brick City" hardcore outfit, RazorBlade HandGrenade. Wes threw down for the cam and even shared some of the spotlight with hardcore brother, Mike Fullam, as well as his pitbull companion.

*RI*'s latest is also locked and loaded with ink slingin' military folks who wear their ink and our nation's colors proud while defending our freedom! Major props and thanks to these cats for their bravery, commitment and skills with the ink, needle, and standard issue, M4.

The great Joe Capobianco and his mind-blowing lady-driven skin art gets an eight-page look-see, and this might be one of our hottest artist features yet, if we do say so ourselves. We also know you're gonna dig our pages on Alabama tatter, Greg Ashcraft. Here is an artist that is well on his way to joining the conversation about America's most gifted slingers, and we're stoked to have him in this issue!

Every *RI* issue has its quota of bad girls, but this time, the mag that brings the tats and 'tude has outdone itself. Aside from wearing the "bitch" label with pride on the insane reality house party, "Bad Girls Club," Sydney also rocked it on the MTV joint, "True Life." Sydney sets fire to our cover and centerfold, then puts her cards on the table in a sit down, where she covered ink, living life on her own terms, and being a bisexual.

Your admission price gets you all of that and plenty more, so turn the page, and let the ink do its thing!

Ink & Attitude  
The Editors

## Rebel Ink

INK AND ATTITUDE

MAY/JUNE 2011

### PUBLISHER

Christopher Perretta

### EDITOR IN CHIEF

Paul Gambino

### ART DIRECTOR

Frank Cafiero

### MANAGING EDITOR

Dan Brown

### ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Emmanuel Ureña

### CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Frank De Blase, Lauren Del Vecchio, Shane Frank, Michelle Guerrero, Van Holden, Gerard Haze, Razor Leary, Travelin' Mick, Samuel Perea, Amy Sciarretto, Samuel Wells, T.K. Welton, Ben Westhoff

### CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Randy Butler, Liz Besanson, Toby Caughron, Nicolle Clemetson, Frank De Blase, Dangerously Dolly, Amelia Hall, Sean Hartgrove, Justice Howard, Dan Howell, Howard Huang, Miss Missy, Estevan Oriol, Steve Prue, Gary Roberts, Travis Shinn, Kevin Warn

### COPY EDITOR

Alice Park

### DIRECTOR OF MANUFACTURING

Arnold Held

### PRODUCTION MANAGER

Fulvio Brito

### ADVERTISING

Martin Puntus, (201) 843-4004 x 113  
mpuntus@magnapublishing.com

### EDITORIAL OFFICES

210 Route 4 East, Suite 211,  
Paramus, NJ 07652  
201-843-4004

### ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Martin Puntus

### CIRCULATION DIRECTOR

Evan Honig

### CONTROLLER

Fred Zott

### DISTRIBUTOR

Curtis Circulation Co.

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*The Ocean*

**LYLE**  
**TUTTLE**



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May June 2011

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# Tattoo You

## THE READERS OF REBEL INK

Got something on your mind? Well, we want to hear it. In our continuing effort to get to know our readers, we're offering this forum for you, the inked rebel masses, to express yourselves in our pages. So, whether you want to throw us some feedback, give us a heads-up on some tatted rebel you want to see in our pages or tell us to go to hell, bring it on.

**I**t was awesome that *Rebel Ink* opened up your March 2011 issue with Brandon Bond. All or Nothing is such a badass shop! I've gotten work from them twice, and plan on continuing my collection with them. I definitely recommend them to anyone in our area. In fact, even if you're not in our area, you should definitely consider making the trip down here!

**Jason P.**  
Atlanta, GA

**Jason,**  
Thank you for writing to us! We figured, what best way to open up the issue than to give you guys some awesome ink to feast your eyes on? Brandon Bond, and his team at All or Nothing, never seize to amaze us. Trust us, you're not the first to tell us about their excellent work and reputation in your area. We're glad you enjoyed the piece. Look out for some more killer ink coming your way!

**T**hank you! Thank you! Thank you for having Lea from the "Bad Girls Club"

in the magazine! She is so hot! When I first saw her on tv. I thought she'd be the perfect person for *Rebel Ink*. I almost sent a letter to you guys about it, but it seems that you read my mind before I even licked the stamp.

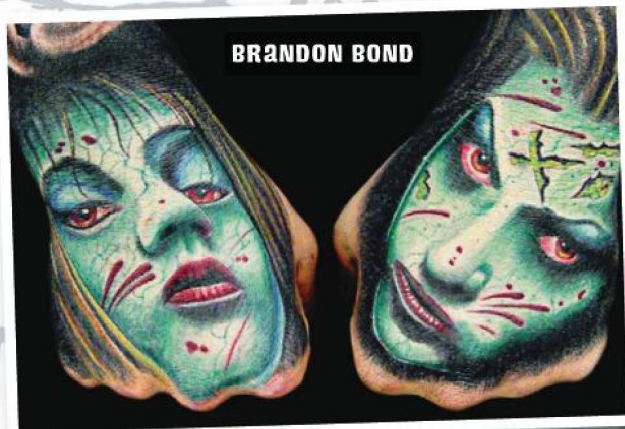
**Jackie C.**  
Aventura, FL

**Jackie,**  
When we first got word of Ms. Lea Lorraine and her impressive ink collection, we knew we had to get her in the magazine, and by the looks at all of the positive feedback we've been getting through email and on our twitter page (@rebelinkmag)—it seems that Lea was indeed the HBIC of the BGC.

**A**lthough I have seen my girl, Megan Fox, in magazines showing off her ink before, I'm psyched that *Rebel Ink* put her on the cover [March 2011]. I haven't seen her on a cover in a long while, and I've certainly never seen a more awesome cover than this one. Thank you! Now I have a cool photo of Megan to hang on my wall!

**Greg O.**  
New Haven, CT

**Greg,**  
At first, we were driving ourselves crazy trying to come up with a cover that matched the awesomeness that is Megan Fox. We went through quite a few samples. We wanted to show her beauty, but at the same time, stay loyal to our



**MEGAN FOX**



tattooed brethren. We hooked up with artist, Arantza—known for her dark fantasy pieces—and devised a Day of the Dead piece featuring our cover girl. We're psyched that you liked the cover!

**C**ome on, be honest—did you guys fix the Super Bowl to make sure you had a winner in your issue for that month? I just think it's a little too coincidental that the issue where you featured Daryn Colledge comes out one week, and then the following week, the Green Bay Packers win the Super Bowl. It's okay, you can tell me. Since *Rebel Ink* is my favorite magazine, I promise the secret will stay between us.

**Jenna M.**  
Wallington, NJ

**Jenna,**

*Do you really want to know our secret? Okay, here it goes: We know how to pick winners. Shhh... Ha! The truth is that we liked Daryn's ink, and were thinking of featuring him way before the season even began. Would we have featured him if the Packers would've lost? Well, that's a secret that we're taking to the grave with us.*

**E**ven though I didn't really understand the cover image of the April 2011 issue too much, I will admit I enjoyed the story. People can really get wrapped up on the bad aspect the media puts on someone. I always knew Bombshell McGee had her own side of the story—even though I didn't believe one word of it. Is she an evil bitch? Maybe. Thank you for helping to confuse things even further.

**Doug L.**  
Fort Myers, FL

**Doug,**

*You weren't the first, nor will you be the last person to tell us that the cover made you go,*

*"Huh?" However, you are right about something—we definitely know that there's always more than one side to every story, which is why we were open to the idea of letting Michelle speak her peace in our magazine. We also offer an invitation to anyone involved in the scandal to reach out to us for an opportunity to speak their mind in the magazine as well. We're willing to report the truth—no matter whose version of the truth it may be.*

**I**'ve been straying away from reality tv shows lately. They just all seem to be out of the same script. However, your article on the cast of "The X-Life" did spark an interest in me. I'm not sure if it was how hot everyone looked on the photos, they're crazy tattoos, or what—but I definitely tuned in after reading the article. From reading the article and then seeing the show, I realized that the members of the cast are really being who they are whether they're on—or off camera.

**Marie Rose**  
Peoria, IL

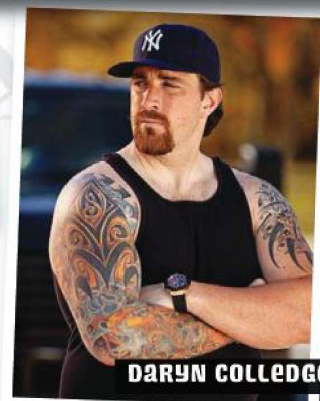
**Marie Rose,**

*We're glad to hear that our article brought you back to the land of reality tv. We love reality tv up here, at Rebel Ink. Can't get enough of the wild antics, seething fights, and torrid sexiness? Well, in the case of Rebel's last issue—take a spicy reality show, and add a wild, inked cast, and you've got yourself a hot RI feature.*

**I**'m sorry, but I have to send my favorite tattoo magazine some heat for that last issue [April 2011]. It would've been cool if the article on Michelle McGee and Michael Lohan would've been only on Michelle



**MIKE LOHAN,  
MICHELLE MCGEE  
AND MIGHTY MIKE**



**DARYN COLLEDGE**

cause she's all tattooed up and looks good, but Michael only has like one tattoo.

And what the f\*ck was the point of Mighty Mike? If the images were supposed to be comical, then I guess it was an inside joke, 'cause it totally went over my head.

**Kenny J.**  
New York, NY

**Kenny,**

*The images were a comical and rebellious twist on the general perception of the typical "American family," which is why we titled it, "The New Inked American Family." We felt that both Michelle and Michael had interesting stories to tell, which is why we asked them both to participate in the feature, and we threw little Mighty Mike in there for kicks. The subject of the amount of ink on the people we feature does weigh heavily, but if their story is as spicy as Michael's, then we have to run with it. We apologize if you didn't get the joke, but we thought it was funny as hell. Oh, and by the way, Michael Lohan has two tattoos. Thanks for reading!*

Want in?  
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# REBEL FLASH...

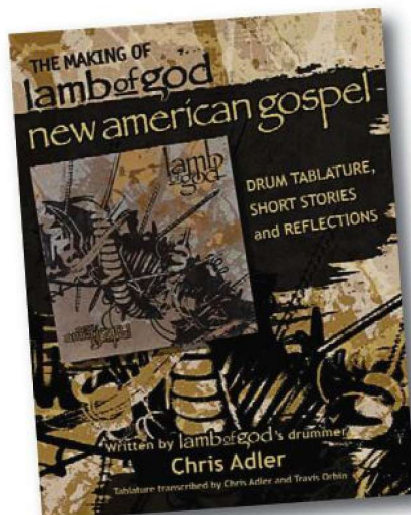
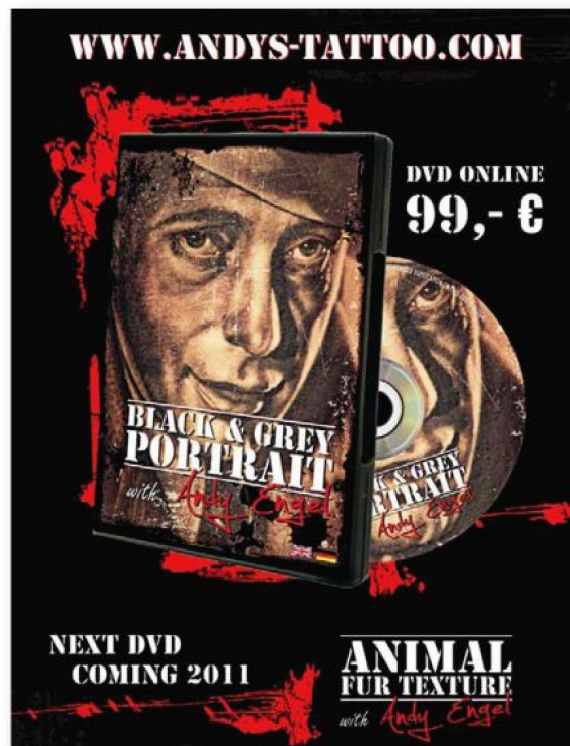
A quick look at some of the cool stuff that finds its way across the editor's desk. BTW, if you've got something you want us to feature on the pages of Rebel Flash send it to:

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210 Route 4 East  
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Attn: Rebel Flash

## Black & Grey Portrait with Andy Engel Learn From the Best

Internationally acknowledged and awarded tattoo artist, Andy Engel, shows the development of one of his most famous black & grey pieces on his full-length DVD titled, *Black & Grey Portrait with Andy Engel*. Engel has been tattooing since 1995, constantly gaining more knowledge and skills throughout his career. His specialization on black & grey portraiture has gained him lots of respect during the last five years, garnering him a well-respected role in the industry today.

Now, Andy shares his knowledge with all professionals and aspiring artists on his instructional DVD slated for an early 2011 release. Just like in his seminars, Andy explains every facet of tattoo in an easy, step-by-step manner. Starting with the proper preparation of his workplace and explaining colors, needle groupings and his machines—Engel directs the viewer on everything from how to create a stencil, the delicate tattooing process, up to the finished portrait. After countless articles in magazines all over the world, and numerous tv appearances and seminars, everybody now has the chance to look over Andy's shoulder at any time to capture his excellence.



## The Making of Lamb of God's New American Gospel Hard Rock Chronicles

Lamb of God drummer, Chris Adler, is pleased to announce the release of a comprehensive behind the scenes narrative book, *The Making of Lamb of God's New American Gospel*, detailing the early days of the band through the writing and recording of their classic album. This is the first and only book chronicling the history of the making of this monumental metal album.

Known for not pulling any punches, *The Making of Lamb of God's New American Gospel* tells the real story—warts and all, which chronicles over 100 oversized pages personally written by Adler. It comes complete with drum tablature, transcribed and verified by the drummer, along with refreshingly accurate drum tabs per song. The drummer precedes each song on the album with pages of written detail on how—and why—*New American Gospel* came to be, and his view of how it worked, or didn't—in the band's live set.

The book is a must-have for any Lamb of God fans, as well as any drumming buff looking for “fly-on-the-wall” access to the hows and whys of critical choices and decisions that were made in the process of creating iconic record.

To purchase the book visit: [www.chris-adler.com](http://www.chris-adler.com)





## Akumu Ink Clothing and Apparel Shrieking Fashion

These artistic shirts come to us from Akumu Ink Clothing. The designer, Joey, the designer, and the business handler, Dora, started Akumu Ink in 2008. The duo started off by selling t-shirts online from the spare bedroom in their apartment, and since then, the brand has evolved aesthetically over the last few years, and is feverishly rocking this nightmarish scratchboard look on everything from t-shirts to canvases, and prints.

The name Akumu is Japanese for “nightmare” which is the running theme for the entire brand. Joey’s designs are also heavily inspired by everything coming out of the Asian country, from its cute pop icons to its terrifying horror movies.

The spooky designs are created and printed by Akuma Ink on American Apparel hoodies and t’s. Their collection comes in all sizes ranging from toddler to XXL. Akumu also slap their graphics on skins for iPhones and Blackberries.

We only offer you a taste of Akumu Ink’s collection, but to swallow their creativity whole, check out the rest of their unique designs, and add any of these pieces to your wardrobe.

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### Righting Our Wrongs for Combichrist Our Bad!

In our January 2011 issue we covered aggrotech band, Combichrist. Immediately after the mag’s release our emails were flooded with feedback on the piece from Combichrist fans. Some thanked us for the awesome spread on their favorite band; however, there were some hardcore fans that pointed out a major blunder in our story. Apparently, lead singer Andy LaPlegua was misquoted on page 100. The article states that Andy called his drummer “Jerry,” when, in fact, Combichrist’s drummer is named Joe Letz.


Another faux pas—which was discovered when we went back to right our wrongs—were in the photography credits. WDR Photography was credited as the sole photographers, when, in reality, two other photographers helped us create the spread with their killer images. *Candylust.org* photographed both Joe Letz and Trevor Friedrich on pages 98, 99 and 100. As for the live shots you saw throughout the piece, those were the fine work of Frank Buttenbender.

In light of our slips, we’d like to offer you hardcore Combichrist fans another look one of the badass images that gave the feature its stunning look.





# JOE CAPOBIANCO



...THERE ARE SIMPLY  
TOO MANY PEOPLE THAT  
RUN OUT AND TRY TO  
MAKE THEIR TATTOOING  
DREAMS COME TRUE.  
USUALLY AT THE  
EXPENSE OF SOME  
POOR SOUL, OR DUMB  
BASTARD'S ASS.



# GIRLS, GIRLS, GIRLS

Article by Emmanuel Ureña



Joe Capobianco is a refined artist in the field of fine arts and tattooing. Tattooing since 1992, he relocated from Long Island, New York to New Haven, Connecticut 11 years ago looking for new canvases to decorate with his skills. In 2003, he opened up Hope Gallery in New Haven. Since then, Hope Gallery has recruited some of the most talented artists in the business, gaining worldwide notoriety. The artists at the famed shop are known for their wide range of styles stemming from classic pin-up and expressive portraits—to wildlife and horror pieces. For over 17 years, Joe has utilized various techniques and mediums in order to create some of the most fascinating pin-up style pieces—both on skin and canvas.

**REBEL INK:** You're known for your creative pin-up work. Were any of them ever inspired by women you interact with in your daily life?

Sadly, no. But there are a few paintings, and perhaps a couple of tattoos, where I used a couple of clients that I've worked on. Like my second edition, 'What's Not Ta' Like,' the gal on the cover is a friend named Mel from California. When I met her, I thought this is a gal with some attitude, and when I did the painting of the cover, I really wanted her to pose. A lot of the gals I draw are references—some from the Internet, or daily life—so I guess there is a bit of 'real life' in most of the art.

**Aside from pin-ups, what other style of tattooing excite you?**







Tough one. I guess I can say things like Japanese style, or on the rare occasion—when I get to do some old school and new school—all with my little twist on it.

***Do you work a lot of conventions throughout the year?***

Man, it seems like I'm always on the road. I keep saying I'm gonna settle down, but that never seems to happen.

***Do you have any conventions scheduled for this year?***

Only a few. I've been kinda down on the shows here in the States as of late. Kind of sick of all the BS, and let's face it, the sheer amount of crappy shows. So, I've mainly been concentrating on shows overseas. I'll be in Copenhagen and Germany (The Tattoo Ink Explosion) this April, [and] in Toronto, Canada attending the NIX in June, and the Styrian show in Austria in August.

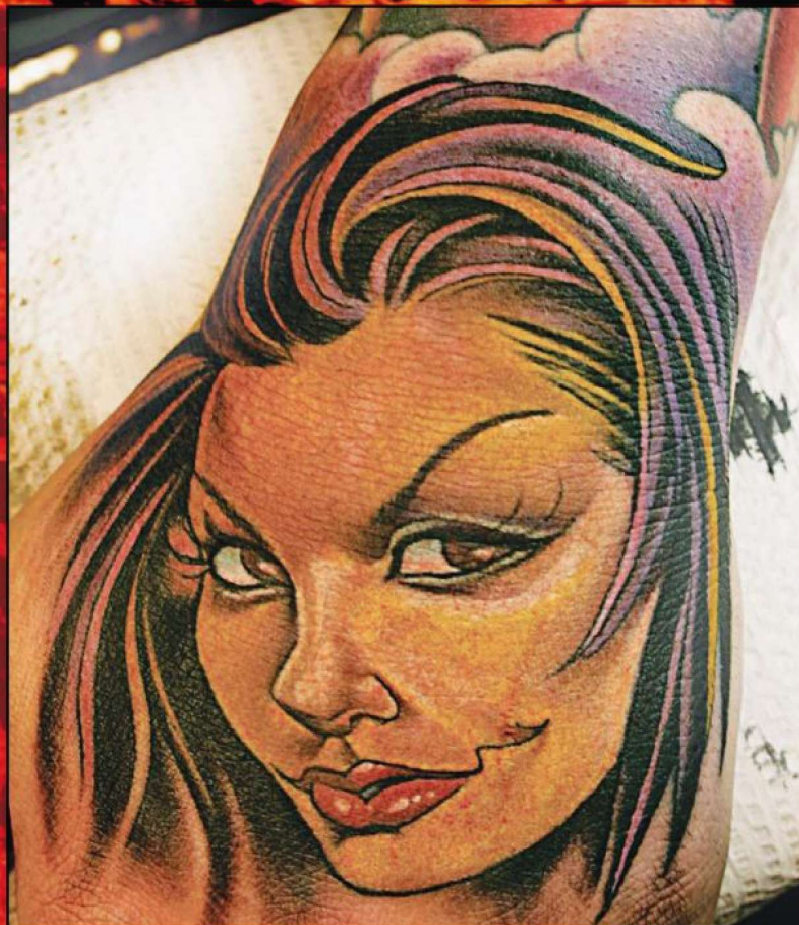
***What criteria should an ink collector consider when choosing an artist?***

Firstly, the art, and technical ability of the artist. Then, I think that the rapport that they









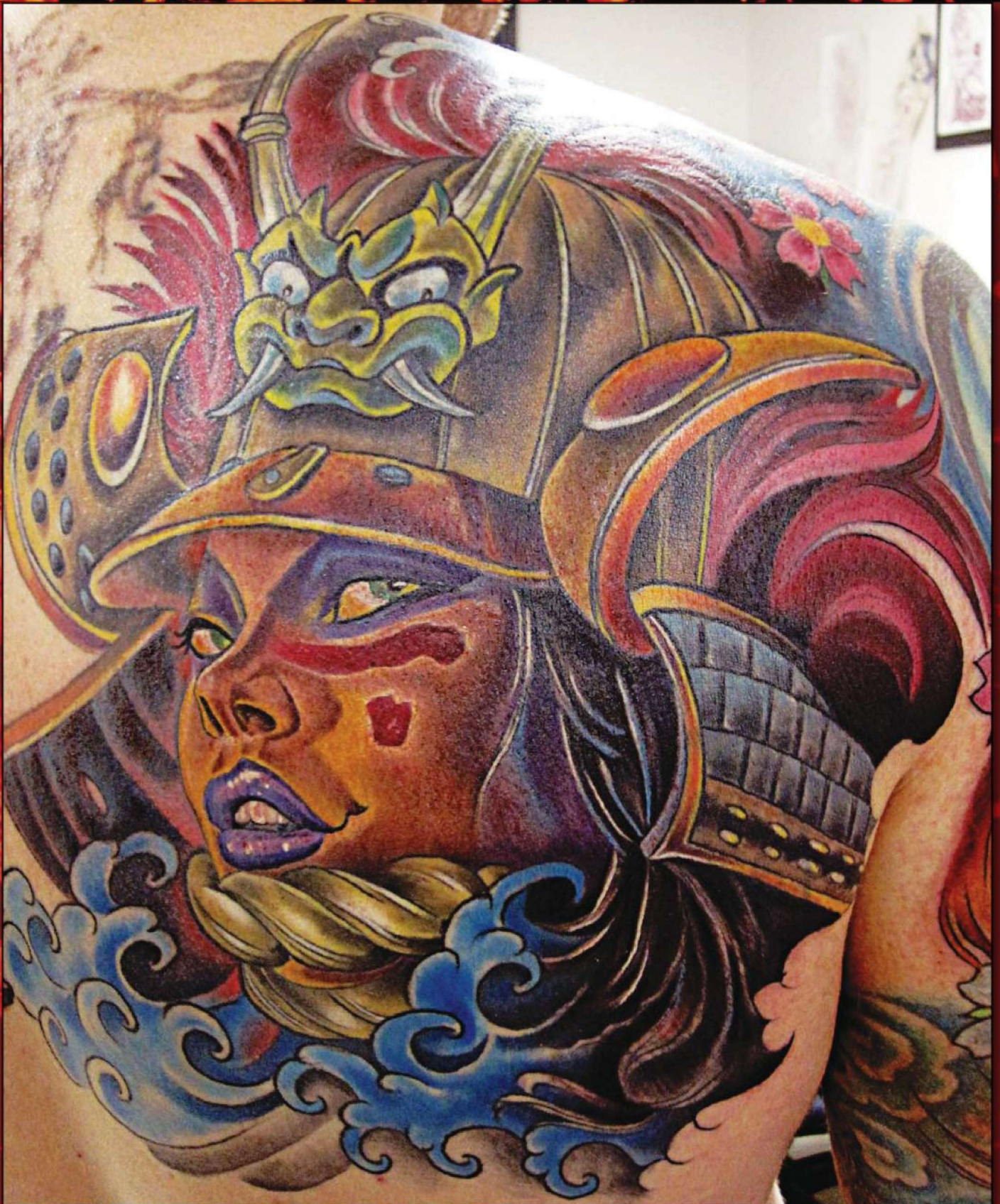
have with the tattooist. I think the experience of getting the tattoo is sometimes just as important.

***I understand that someone's complexion changes the approach as far as the type of ink to use. How would you approach a tattoo on a tanned or darker skin tone?***

Not so much the ink (brand) that's used, but the color palette that you choose to use. I think that when a tanned individual comes in, you need to look at the other tattoos that they may have on them, and see how those have held up. Also, the placement. If it's an area that simply gets a ton of sun, all the time, then again, I may choose to avoid whites, yellows, and a handful of other colors. But, when it all comes down to it—I will explain to this client—that hey, if you want a nice tattoo, and one that's gonna look good for a lifetime, then stay the hell outta the freakin' sun!

***I'm thinking of traveling across the country getting inked by some of the best along the way. How much time in advance would I have to schedule an appointment before making the trip out to New Haven***





***to get tattooed by you?***

I like to keep my schedule a little close to the vest, so I only book about three months in advance. I think if I took everything when it came to me, I'd be booked like a year or two out. It's been my experience that when a client makes an appointment two years in advance in the heat of the moment, there's a good chance they just ain't gonna make it. Plus, booking in small blocks allows me to be able to make last minute trips.

***Some artists we've interviewed in the past have cited you as their influence. Who would you say has influenced you***



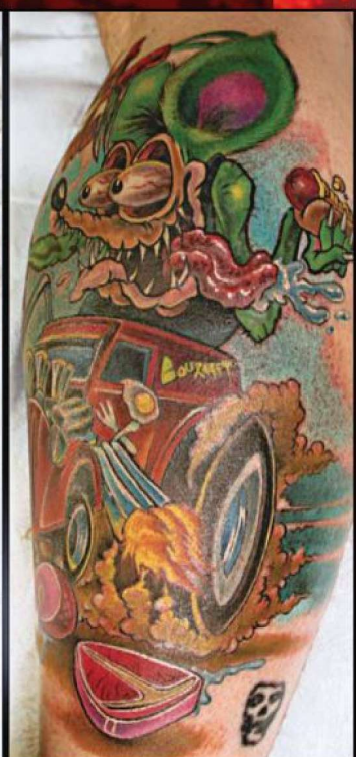
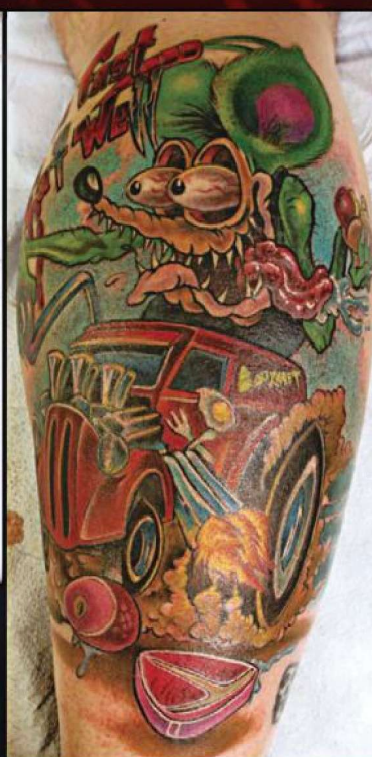


**throughout your years in the tattoo industry?**

Tough one. Hell, there really are so many, but a couple that really stand out are: Paul Booth, Timothy Hoyer, Marcus Patcheco, Eddie Doutche, Filip Leu, & Bernie Luther. Just to name a few. Then there's the traditional artist like, Olivia, Hajima Soryama, Dean Yeagle, Gil Elvgren, Alberto Vargas, Chuck Jones, Frank Frazetta, and George Petty. Again, just to name a few. Everyday is an eye opener when seeing new tattoos, and art.

**What advice would you offer an up-and-coming tattooist trying to get his foot in the door?**

Draw! Draw your ass off. And always keep your eyes and ears open. But, most of all; don't be an







asshole. Keep in mind you're just a tattooist, trying to make a living like the rest of us. One fish, in an awfully big lake.

***Do you think the widespread accessibility of knowledge and equipment to "wannabe" artists has helped or hurt the industry?***

You know, this is a tricky one. A lot of great tattooists have come down the pipe, being self-taught, and starting out as so-called 'Kitchen Magicians.' But, this is certainly not the case in the grand scheme of things. I think the Internet is a great tool, and being able to find something new everyday, and never having to leave your home is great. But, yes, I do believe that there are simply too many people that run out, and try to make their tattooing dreams come true. Usually at the expense of some poor soul, or dumb bastard's ass. But, after years of talk on this subject, I can't seem to find an answer. But I will say to all you 'Wannabe tattooists' and dumbass clients looking to get your cheap ass tattoos—stop! It looks like sh\*t, and it's a pain in the ass to try and cover-up!

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# VICKI AND NICK AMAZING INK

Photography by Julian Murray • Article by Razor Leary

**W**hat makes the hit CBS Network reality show, "The Amazing Race" so captivating is that it combines the thrill of high stakes competition with an inside look at the relationship shared between members of the couples that compete. One of the more compelling couples from season 17 of "AR" was Henderson, Nevada couple, bartender, Nick DeCarlo and hairdresser, Vicki Casciola. Though the tattooed duo fell short of winning the 32,000-mile race, the experience went a long way in sealing the bond between them and forwarding the movement of injecting serious ink collectors into the consciousness of mainstream America.







**NICK** ***REBEL INK:** Did you map out the large design of body art you wear before the machine ever touched your skin, or was the work done as separate pieces that were later brought together?*

Nick DeCarlo: Everything on my body is pretty much planned out. None of it was just put together as pieces. My right arm—from my wrist to my shoulder—is everything to do with my family from my grandparents—to my parents—to my brothers. And then my left arm is a Roman/Italian thing. We're Italian, so we just did a whole Roman type scene there. And then my whole torso is Vegas. I have no skin. When my shirt's off, it's just all tattoos. So, my stomach and my ribs are all Vegas. And I have a thing over my chest for my parents. It was never just like, piece to piece—it was pretty much all planned out.

***Do you have a preferred artist?***

All of my work is done by one artist named Merdok out of Inktville Tattoos here in Las Vegas. I had a buddy when I was 18-19 years old going to him, and I dug his work. Ever since then I've been going to Merdok.

***Do you play a part in the design of the pieces, or do you turn creative control over to the artist?***

I just come to him with an idea, to be honest, and he just pulls out his sharpie and draws it on me. He doesn't draw it on a piece of paper. He just draws it on your skin and starts tattooing.

***How long were you and Vicki together before you were on "The Amazing Race?"***

Roughly two years.

***Do you come from an athletic background?***

Yeah. Ever since I was a kid I was in team sports. Then I went to snowboarding and then I went to dirt bikes, and I mean—gym five days a week. So yeah, Vicki and I are very active on a day-to-day basis.

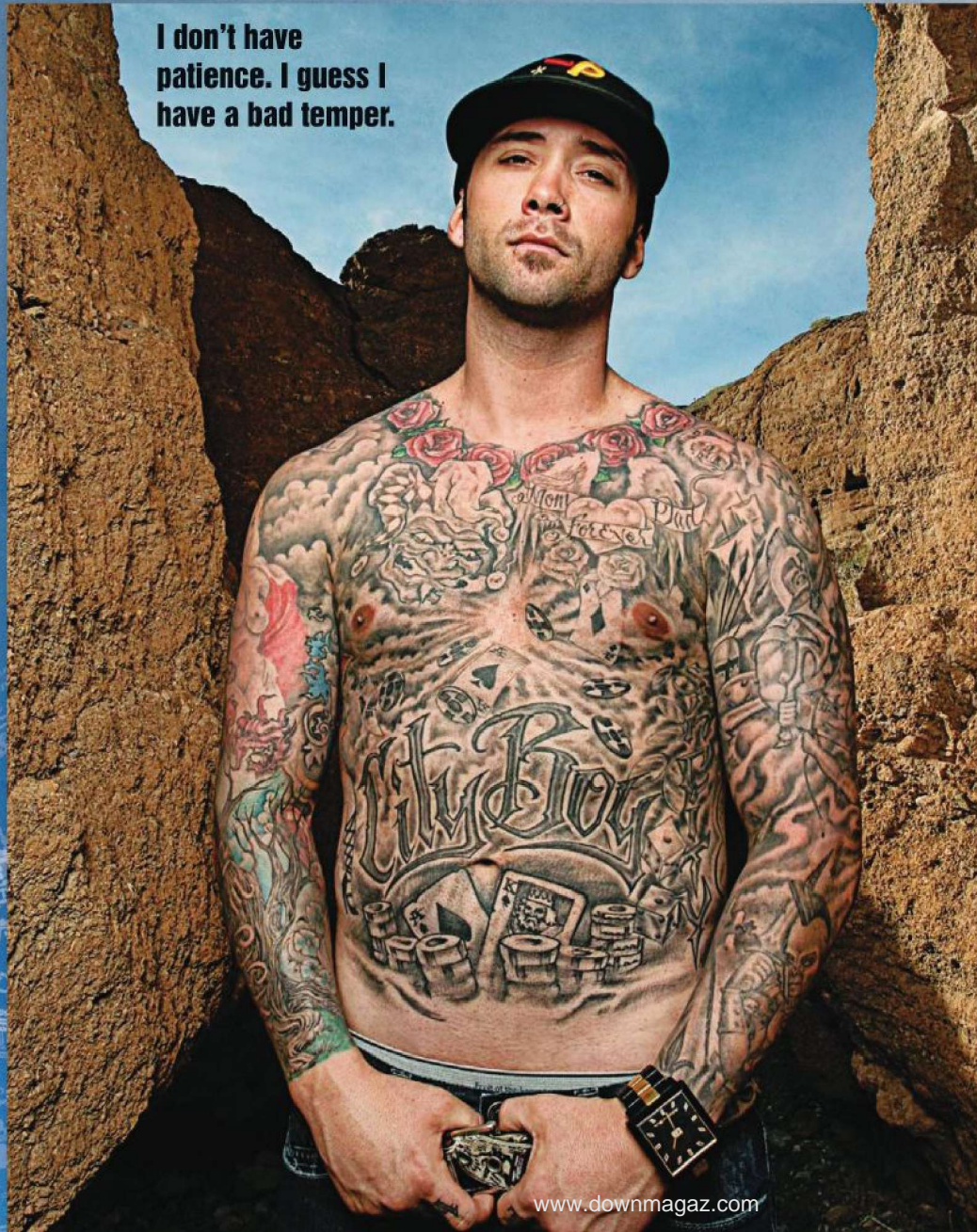
***What was the most important thing you learned about yourself doing the "Amazing Race?"***

I don't have patience. I guess I have a bad temper. I learned a couple things, that's for sure.

***What was the most important thing you learned about Vicki?***

It's not that I learned much. She just kind of proved what I knew about her to be right. She's just a very driven, independent woman—very headstrong. If she sets her mind to doing something, it's going to get done. There's no question about it. She doesn't quit. She's a very strong person. That's one of the things I love so much about her.

**I don't have  
patience. I guess I  
have a bad temper.**





***How accurate was what we saw on t.v. compared to who you really are?***

When I lose my temper, it's pretty accurate, but in day-to-day life, I'm pretty laid back. But, I do have a bad temper, and once I get mad, I get mad. That part's accurate, but as often as they showed us fighting, that's not accurate, at all.

***How have you been received by every day people since being seen on national t.v.?***

In person, everybody's super-cool. I mean they love to talk to us. I get free beers anywhere I go, but on the Internet, that's where I get the, 'You're a d\*ck, blah, blah, blah.' They're the ones that are poking at the anger—it's not in person though. In person, everybody digs me, but on the Internet, it's not the same.





# VICKI

**REBEL INK:** *Can you go into some of the themes in your extensive work?*

Vicki Casciola: It's kind of just like Nick. I have my sleeve, and then I have a whole back shield. It's my whole back and my entire butt. It's all kind of an Asian theme. I have my family—my sister, my mom, my dad and my grandma in Hebrew. It was written by my best friend, she's from Israel and it's her handwriting. I didn't want to just put names on my arm. I wanted it so where people didn't really know what it said or meant. Then on the whole Asian theme—I love the art and the flowers, and I have a Japanese dragon. It's a lady dragon on my back down to my butt. It just kind of reminds me of

**I felt like we were representing tattooed people...It was kind of like proving a point to other people that had their doubts, and were looking down at tattoos.**



something strong and fierce. I kind of see myself as being like that—more dominant, you know? I just went to my tattoo artist and kind of gave him my idea, and he just went with it. I also have the same tattoo artist as Nick.

***Whose idea was it to go on the "Amazing Race?"***

You know what's funny; I wasn't like an avid watcher in the beginning. I mean I've seen it here and there since it's been on forever, but my clients have always been like, 'Oh my God, you should go on the 'Amazing Race.' And I was always just like, 'Yeah, right, I don't want to be on a reality show.' Just because Nick and I both are so athletic, I looked into it more and more, and was like, 'You know what? I think we can do this. Why not try it and try to win a million dollars?' So, it was definitely more on me. And we were shocked that we got picked. I mean, there was never a tattooed couple, or a tattooed person to go on the 'Race.' It's like a family channel. I feel like now everything's changed. People don't look down on tattoos as much as they used to.

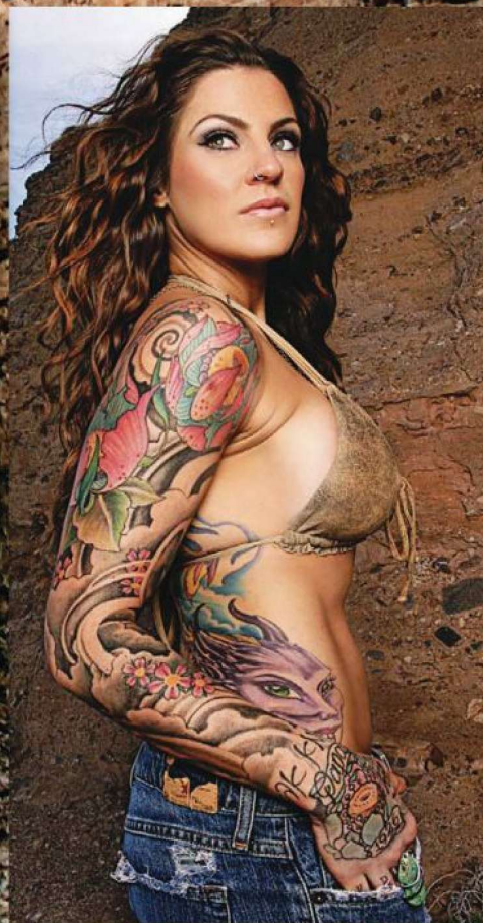
***In some way, did you feel like you were representing the tattooed community on the show?***

Oh, absolutely. I mean everybody is different in their own way on the show, but Nick and I definitely stood out because of that. So, I felt like we were representing tattooed people, you know like, 'They can be athletic, too.' Tattooed people are not always these rough and tough people. It was kind of like proving a point to other people that had their doubts, and were looking down at tattoos.

***Has being on the show changed your relationship?***

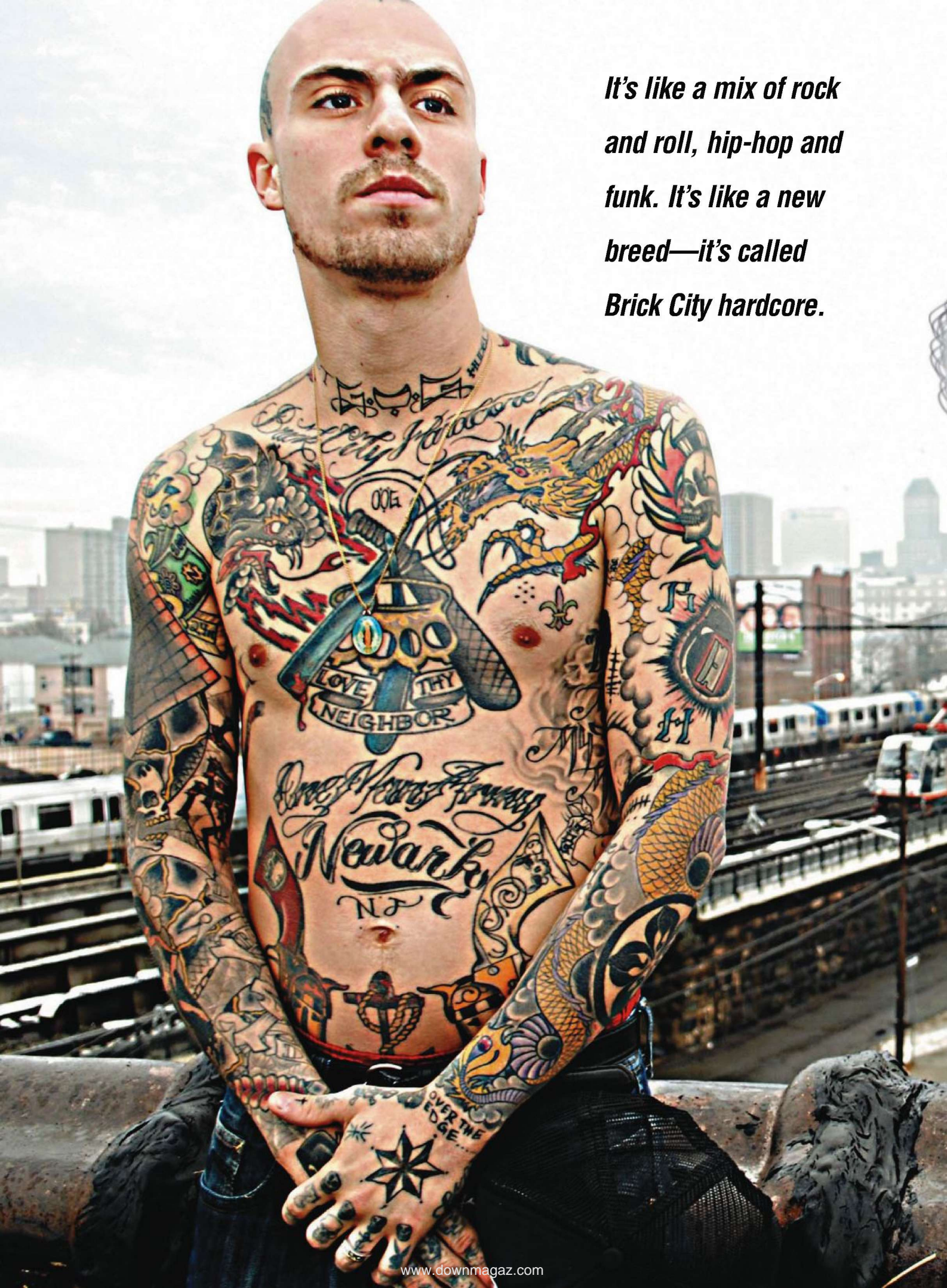
It hasn't really changed our relationship. I mean, we understand each other a lot better than we did before, and we work together better. And we'll try to work on his temper. But we're still together and doing good. If anything, the show brought us a little bit closer. You know, if you can travel around the world with somebody, and be stuck with them for however long, then I'm pretty sure you can make it through life, because that's really, really hard to do.

People have no idea—watching it from the couch—how intense it is on everything, you know, no matter what couple: Father-daughter, two best friends—anything—it's pretty tough.

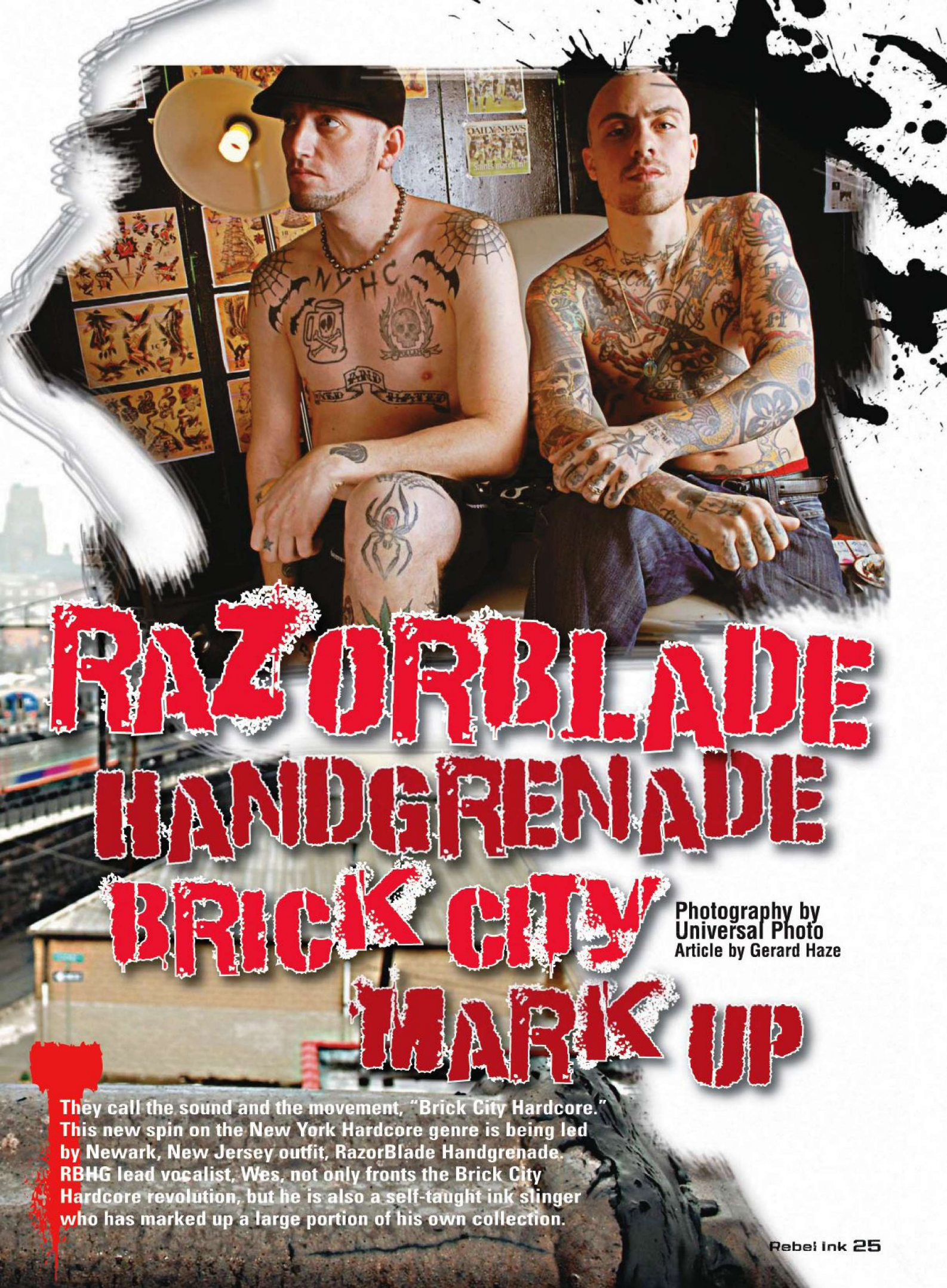




*It's like a mix of rock  
and roll, hip-hop and  
funk. It's like a new  
breed—it's called  
Brick City hardcore.*







# RAZORBLADE HANDGRENADE BRICK CITY MARK UP

Photography by  
Universal Photo  
Article by Gerard Haze

They call the sound and the movement, "Brick City Hardcore." This new spin on the New York Hardcore genre is being led by Newark, New Jersey outfit, RazorBlade Handgrenade. RBHG lead vocalist, Wes, not only fronts the Brick City Hardcore revolution, but he is also a self-taught ink slinger who has marked up a large portion of his own collection.









**REBEL INK:** For those who are not as familiar with the band, tell us how RBHG came together.

Wes: Well, what happened was I went to high school with the guitarist and the drummer. We lost contact for a while. I started to get out of it a bit, and then I got back into it. Later these guys were like, 'Let's start something.' I'm like, 'All right, cool!' And we got together and it was kind of like a joke around thing. It was more like hip-hop at the time. So, I was just writing lyrics and vocals to the beat of the tracks that they were making. Then it got serious. Actually, what started it off was one of our friends said something like us being a 'razorblade handgrenade.' And I was like, 'That could be the name of this. I'm getting it tattooed on me'— and I got it on my arm. From there, it kind of popped off. As it got more serious, everybody had to get the tattoo.

**Who's in the lineup right now?**

Right now, the lineup is Wes on the mic. We got Joey Pop playing guitar, he's our new guitarist. We have OG Frank on the drums, and we got Sean on bass.

**You are a Newark band. How much were you influenced by the New York Hardcore scene?**

When I was really young I was really, really into a lot of punk rock. I got into Bad Brains and a lot of the American bands. I also got into the Clash and so on and so forth. My uncle was heavily into rock and roll—punk rock. So, I got a lot of records through him. I was into hip-hop when I was a kid, too. I was into old school like Naughty By Nature.

**Funny you say that, 'cause some of the RBHG stuff I was checking out sounds to me like there is a flavor of classic rock mixed in.**

It kind of got blended in towards this last album because we started being more specific with our tunes and our notes, and being more creative and diverse with our sound. It's like a mix of rock and roll, hip-hop and funk. It's like a new breed—it's called Brick City hardcore. You know, we're from North Jersey. Everybody else is from Jersey in general. It's kind of like a new movement like New York hardcore. It's a very street, rock and roll, hip-hop, life influenced music.

**Lyrically, what is the RBHG message?**

The RazorBlade HandGrenade message is pretty much a lot of positivity. On this new album, a lot of it could be taken as negative,







# Mike Fullam

**REBEL INK:** Can you tell our readers a bit about yourself, and your connection to the music scene?

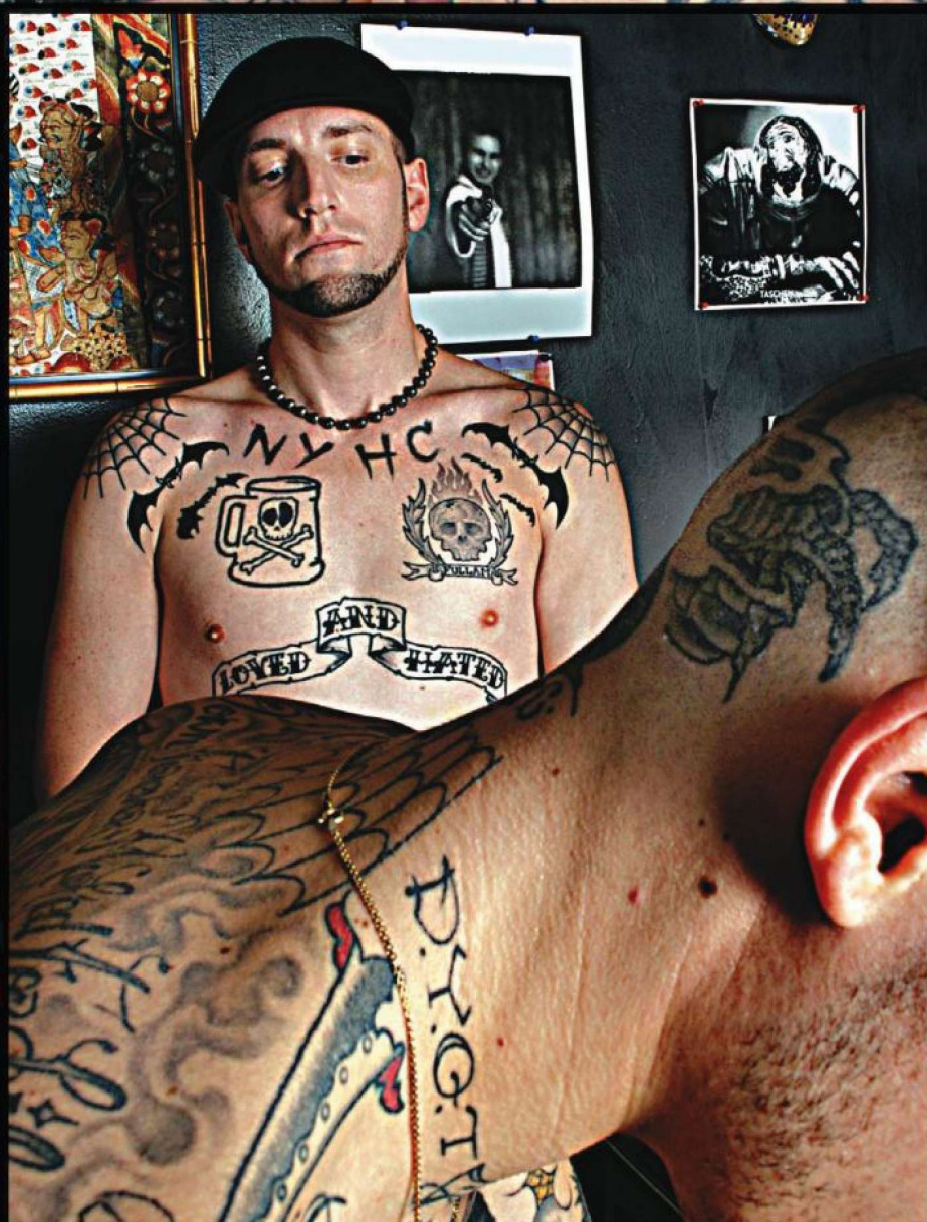
Mike Fullam: Music has always been a part of my life. I listen to a very wide range of music from The Beach Boys to Slayer and everything in between, but I mostly work with and play punk and hardcore. I currently play in Last Call Brawl, and I am a stage manager for the almighty Sick Of It All. I also do freelance work for other bands and local clubs. I also do fill in for bands here and there.

**What ink has Wes put on your skin?**

It's more like, 'What ink hasn't he done on me?' I've been kind of a guinea pig for his practice. When he first started, he didn't even have a tattoo machine. He was doing old school jailhouse style hand pokes; he did almost my whole left shin this way. I've got 'GOG' and 'Livin' Life' (RBHG song titles) written and a spider web under it, then a dollar sign and 'BCHC' (Brick City Hardcore). Then, once he got a machine it was on! On my left leg he has done the RBHG logo, a seven-point nautical star, a Marijuana leaf, a spider on my kneecap, [and] spider webs on both legs just above the knee onto my thigh. He filled blue color into a star outline on my middle knuckle, and put music notes on both my hands and a four-leaf clover on my neck behind my ear. He also put the three-ring John Bonham symbol on the back of my neck and a voodoo skull mask on my forearm. Then, there's my favorite—two flocks of Hunter S. Thompson bats from the *Gonzo* book on both sides of my chest. That is all for now... Until I see him again this weekend.

**What sort of projects can we look forward to from you in the near future?**

There's really no way to tell exactly what to look forward to. I'm constantly busting my ass on and off tour, in terms of coming up with different ideas, taking chances and getting into a variety of things. Everyday is a mystery, and that's how I like to live. Last Call Brawl is in the process of releasing our first full-length record titled *Let's Get Ready To Stumble*. I'm very excited to get this out. We're in talks with a label at the moment. Now that I'm managing RBHG I plan on pushing them up to the next level, where they should be. Then, it's taking things from there. I'm very stoked to get this side project with Wes going. It's gonna be different, in that it's not just Punk/Hardcore. The sound is gonna be very diverse, more towards a Beastie Boys kinda thing. Small sparks are starting a fire in our camp and we're ready to burn the mutha' down!



but it's not. It's very real life, straight to the point. Everything that we bring to our songs, the music and everything is intertwined with our lives, and our music kind of goes hand-in-hand. **Tell us about the new record.**

Yeah, it's called, *Tales From The Bricks*. It's been a long awaited album, four years. If you write me at [oogwes777@gmail.com](mailto:oogwes777@gmail.com) we'll send you a copy, or hit us up on Facebook or our website. A lot of people have been waiting on it. It's just been a long process to get this album done, but it's finally here. We're really excited to get it out to the world.

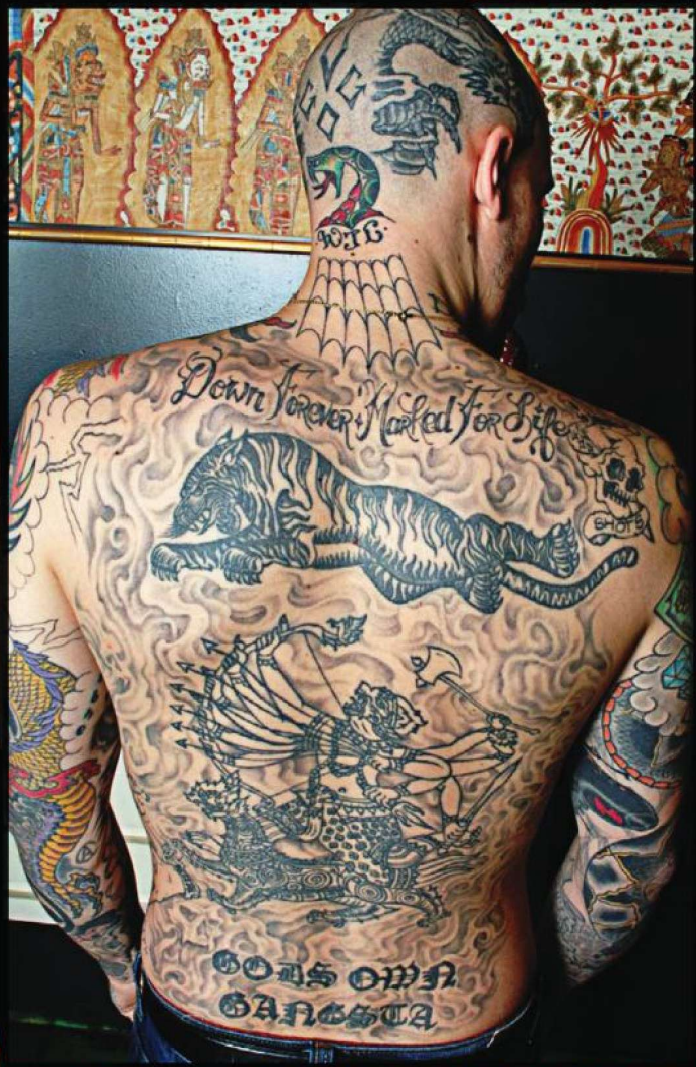
**When did you start collecting ink?**

The first tattoo I got was in New York City. I was 14-years-old. I think I told my mother I was staying at a friend's house, and we took a train into the city. I think I got the ID upstairs and the tattoo downstairs. The piece was a skull with a Mohawk. I got it on my shoulder. I told mother it was fake, and for about a month she tried to rub it off. Finally she was like, 'What are you, crazy?'

**Is there a common theme with your ink?**

Yeah, I mean a lot of tattoos on me are kind of my statement. A lot of my stuff is self-illustrated.





I've been tattooing myself for about three years. I was working at a shop at one point, and I didn't have any machines yet, so I started doing professional hand-poked tattoos with real tattoo needles. I'm actually in that book *The Idiot's guide To Getting A Tattoo* doing a hand-poked tattoo. By the way, the book is awesome, by John Reardon, a NYC hero of mine. Then, a friend of mine was telling me that I should get into building my own machines. Wild Bill actually had given John Reardon two tattoo machines a long time ago. John was tattooing my head one day.

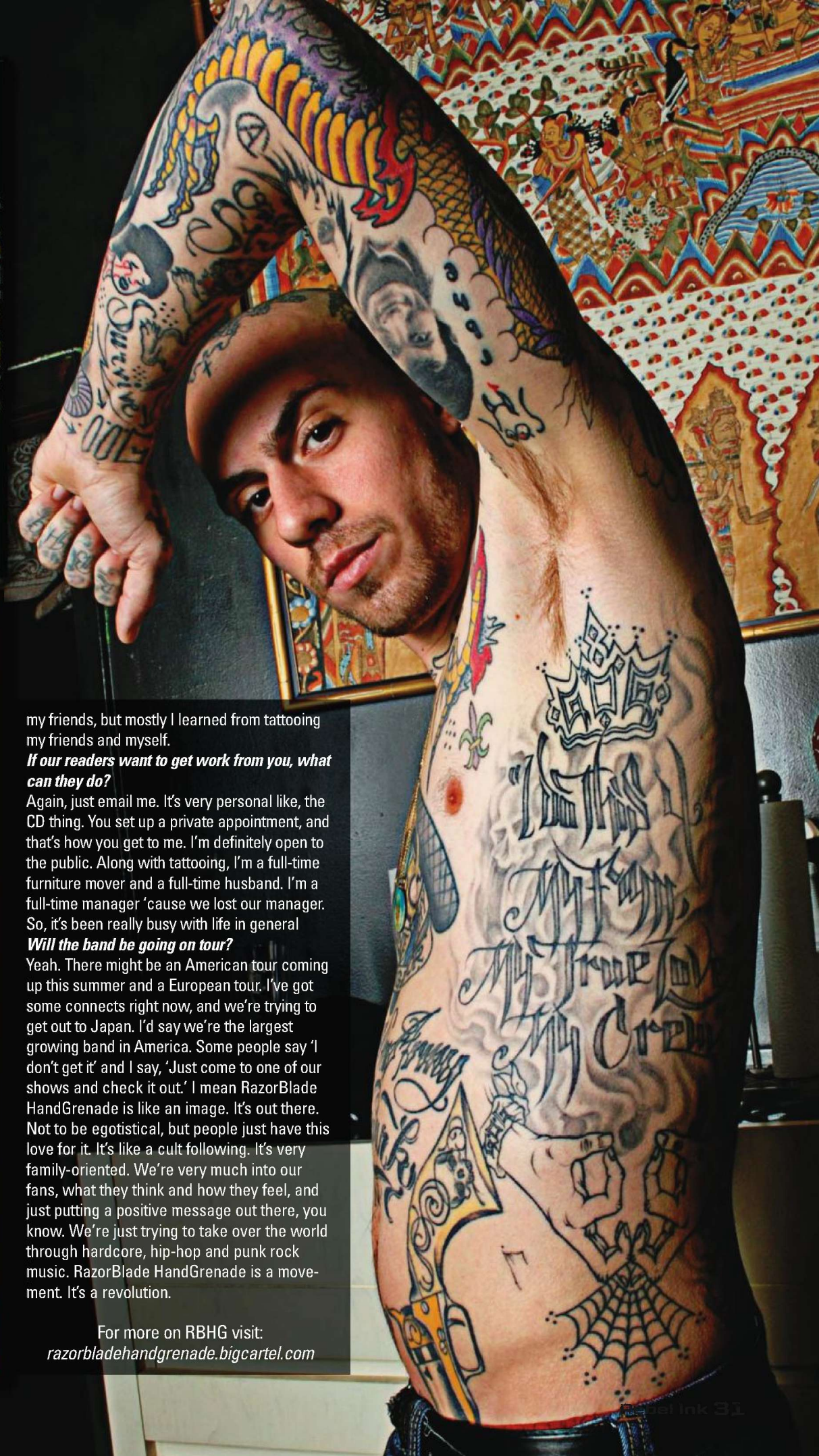
I was like, 19-years-old and I was getting my whole skull done, and I said 'This guy wants me to build my own machines.' So, John gave me those two machines.

**Did you have any formal training as an artist, or are you self-taught?**

I did learn it all on my own. I got my formal apprenticeship through a shop, and I learned the professional way to tattoo—cross contamination, how to put ink into the flesh and all that, how to make needles, and the whole nine—but, as far as tattooing physically, I learned that on my own. I got a couple of tips from







my friends, but mostly I learned from tattooing my friends and myself.

***If our readers want to get work from you, what can they do?***

Again, just email me. It's very personal like, the CD thing. You set up a private appointment, and that's how you get to me. I'm definitely open to the public. Along with tattooing, I'm a full-time furniture mover and a full-time husband. I'm a full-time manager 'cause we lost our manager. So, it's been really busy with life in general

***Will the band be going on tour?***

Yeah. There might be an American tour coming up this summer and a European tour. I've got some connects right now, and we're trying to get out to Japan. I'd say we're the largest growing band in America. Some people say 'I don't get it' and I say, 'Just come to one of our shows and check it out.' I mean RazorBlade HandGrenade is like an image. It's out there. Not to be egotistical, but people just have this love for it. It's like a cult following. It's very family-oriented. We're very much into our fans, what they think and how they feel, and just putting a positive message out there, you know. We're just trying to take over the world through hardcore, hip-hop and punk rock music. RazorBlade HandGrenade is a movement. It's a revolution.

For more on RBHG visit:  
[razorbladehandgrenade.bigcartel.com](http://razorbladehandgrenade.bigcartel.com)



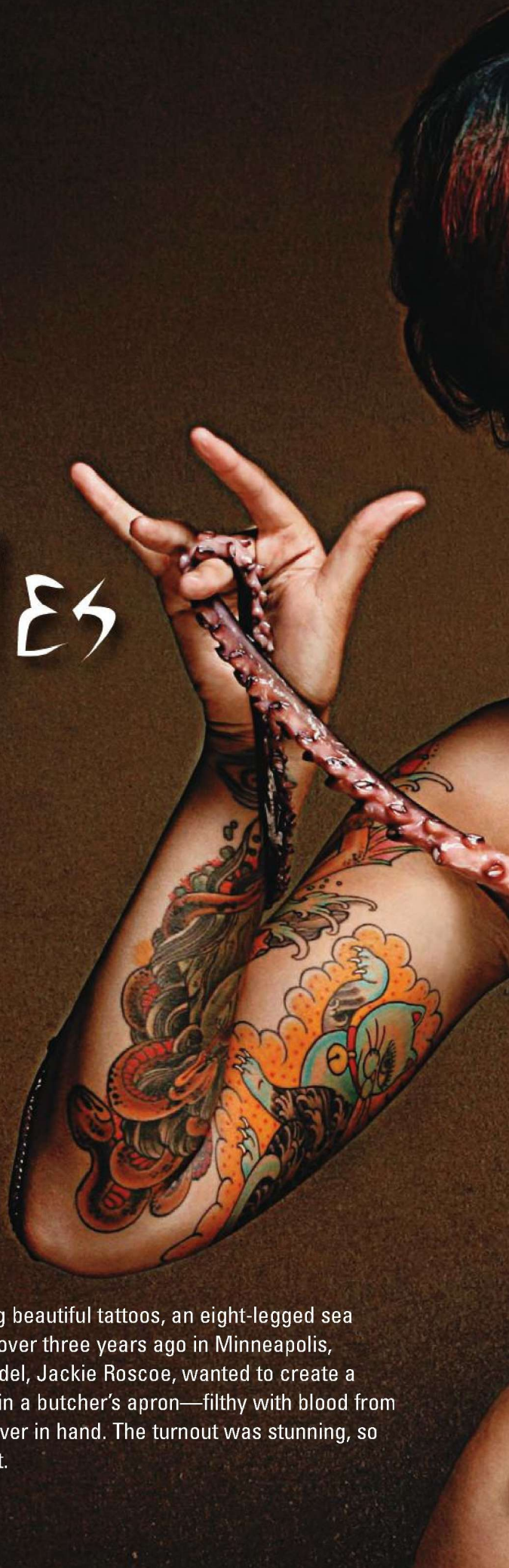
INK IN FOCUS

# Tattoos and Tentacles

## A Photographic Art Series

Photography by Julian Murray  
Article by Clive Young

**T**attoos & Tentacles is a photographic art series combining beautiful tattoos, an eight-legged sea creature, and extraordinary people. The series originated over three years ago in Minneapolis, Minnesota when photographer, Julian Murray, and his model, Jackie Roscoe, wanted to create a more edgy, dark photo shoot for kicks. First, they shot her in a butcher's apron—filthy with blood from raw meat—holding a chunk of raw steak with a meat cleaver in hand. The turnout was stunning, so they decided to conceive another gory and clever concept.







The response and reaction to the image of the octopus on the back of his business card was insatiable, so much so that Murray used the underwater creature as his next muse. One year later Julian's fiancé, Lace—who is a graphic designer and professional photo retoucher—was revamping Julian's website and suggested that they add more photography to the series section. After sifting through most of Julian's portfolio, they came across the octopus shoot with Jackie. "Over the year, I had picked up a few new lightening techniques and decided to do a reshoot. The second time around turned out even better, so we did three more shoots with female models and an octopus," stated Julian about the inception of his series.



The outcome would be five images—a solid series—but still the project had no name. That is until one random evening, while enjoying a few glasses of wine, Lace and Julian realized each model had some sort of tattoo work, hence, dubbing the series *Tattoos and Tentacles*.















In January 2010, Lace and Julian—along with their cat, Sinatra Frank—packed up what they could and headed out west—Los Angeles, California to be exact. Julian's photography had mostly been portrait work with a large emphasis on hip-hop photography. After meeting and working with a few record labels and music artists in L.A., everyone appreciated Julian and Lace's work, and would always come back with an extra compliment on the originality and outcome of the *Tattoos and Tentacles* series.











"From all the great feedback, our concept formed into expanding and developing the series into a larger project. L.A. was a great place to start scouting for heavily tattooed people; everything had naturally fallen into place so we rolled with it. The response was amazing! We couldn't believe all the people who were willing and wanting to be a part of the project," recalled Julian. They began shooting more octopi-related shoots, but this time creating scenes, scenarios and utilizing locations. People are often intrigued about how the shoots work, with typical questions such as: "Where do they get the octopi? How long they take? How they come up with the ideas?" "The process is really, rather simple," Julian admits. "We usually pick up a frozen octopus from an Asian supermarket, or local seafood shop. We thaw them in hot water the day of the shoot. Lace will wash them in soap and dry them off with a towel. At this point, the octopus isn't that slimy anymore and usually sticks to the models quite well instead of sliding around," he explained. To keep everyone comfortable, and in order to beat the bad smell of a dead octopus—the shoots last about 15 minutes, tops. It took the team a good ten, smelly shoots—or maybe even more—to get into the routine they use now.

The final product is a full-color, photographic, coffee table book, displaying 150-plus pages of tattoos and tentacles filled images. Julian and Lace recently completed 55 full photo shoots for the series. A softer, Summer 2011 release of the coffee table book is in the works. The book will be available for sale online through the website.

They will also be touring the project at art galleries and tattoo conventions across the U.S.

*Tattoos & Tentacles* posters are currently available for sale online at

<http://www.tattoosandtentacles.com>







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DISCOVERY INK

# DEADLIEST CATCH

42 Rebel Ink

[www.downmagaz.com](http://www.downmagaz.com)





In 2010, famed crab fishermen, Josh Harris and his younger brother, Jake, finished up their sixth season on the Discovery Channel show "Deadliest Catch," chronicling their Alaskan king crab fishing expeditions in the extreme waters of the fishing vessels in the Bering Sea. With the televised season, tough cameramen captured the usual severe conditions such as: Stressful fishing disappointments, extreme weather conditions, and bitter brawls—however, it unfortunately also saw the death of their father, Phil Harris—the captain of the family's boat, The Cornelia Marie—after a massive stroke. The brothers have since been forced to pick up the pieces of their father's life and career, while keeping their dexterous and successful family name afloat. Fishermen are known to work hard and party even harder—and these young men are no different. *Rebel Ink* caught up with them to discuss their wild lifestyles—which include stints at rehab and jail—their intricate tattoos, as well as their recent attempts to stop smoking.

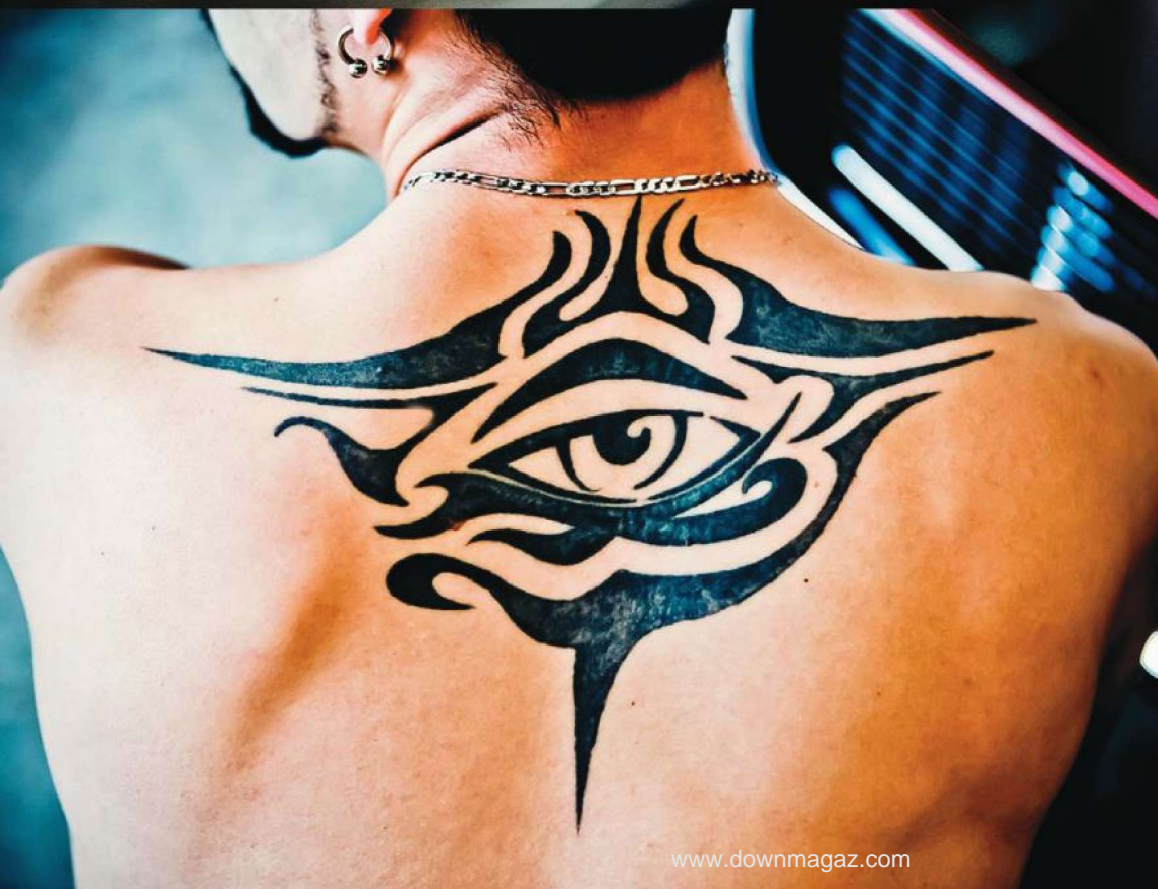
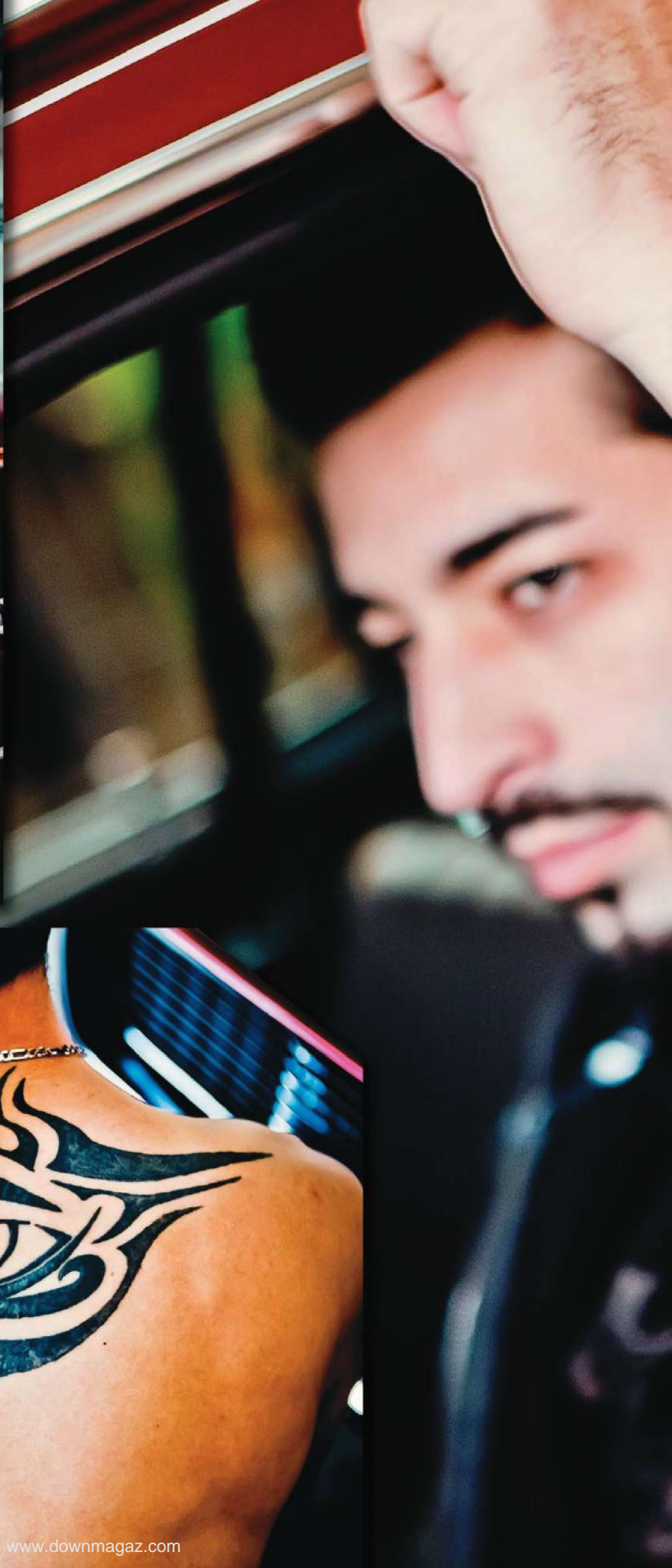
# JOSH AND JAKE HARRIS

Brothers of the Bering Sea  
Carry On The Legacy

Photography by Heather Lynn Photography  
Article by Ben Westhoff

Garage photos shot at: Killer Paint, Inc. Snohomish, WA







**REBEL INK: What's the hardest part about having your dad gone?**

Jake Harris: When somebody is so involved in your life and he's taken out of the picture, you've got to restructure everything—both family and work—since he was my employer. I'm trying to make things halfway normal. It's hard to believe he died a year ago.

**You and Josh had to take charge of keeping the Cornelia Marie on the water. Why was it so important for you to do that?**

People who work on the boat need to be employed. Plus, I don't know what else I'd be doing if I hung it up.

**You believe that smoking led to your dad's death, and have been trying to quit. Have you been successful?**

I am currently still kind of smoking. It's a hard thing to quit. With a job like this, there are a lot of stressors, and you get used to the crutch of a cigarette. To keep your head on straight, sometimes you just gotta light one up.

**Who does your tattoo work?**

A guy named Tom Karlsten at Tattoo Evolution in Everett, Washington (<http://www.myspace.com/tattooevolution>). He is the same artist that did my dad. I started getting tattooed by him when I was 18.

**Was that your first tat?**

No, I got my first when I was 14. My buddy did it himself. He had a home-made, rigged gun, but he did good tattoos. He did the Eye of Ra on my back—the same one my brother has. It's like someone watching your back.

**You have a sleeve on your right arm, right?**

Yeah. Around my wrist there's a coral reef, and above that, a mermaid sitting on a treasure chest. Up my arm there's an octopus attacking a pirate, with a sword going through his chest. On the back there's a skeleton drinking a bottle of rum, and at the top, a Bristol Bay sunrise.





**How are you feeling since rehab?**

I'm doing good. The party scene nowadays doesn't seem as difficult—as extreme. Life's a little easier each day.

**Rebel Ink: Your dad wanted his death to be filmed, right?**

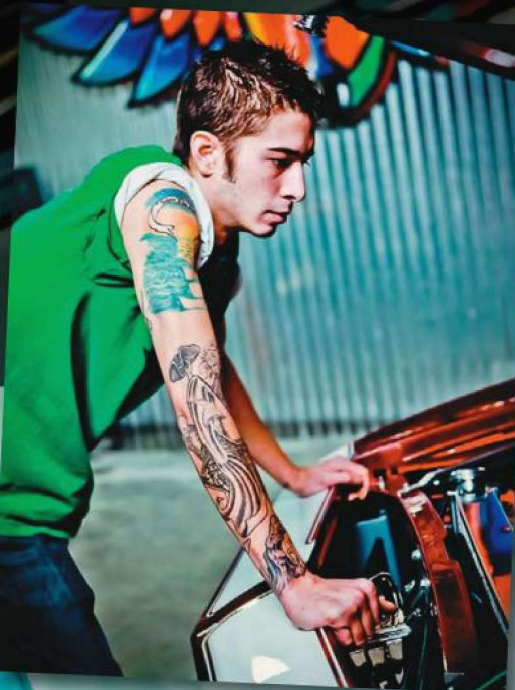
Josh Harris: You know, it's something we all talked about. He wanted people to see the truth—the reality. He always wanted to be larger than life, and now he's worked his way into the history books.

**Your dad was sleeved up. Did you get into tats because of him?**

No, once Jake and I started doing it, he went and decided he was going to get fully sleeved. He woke up, went to the tattoo shop, and didn't leave the whole day.

**Who does your tattoo work?**

This guy named Matt at Hardline Tattoos in Monroe, Washington does a lot of my work.











Thanks to Todd Summers  
for providing his '68  
Camaro, custom painted  
by Mike Lavalley of  
Killer Paint, Inc.





***I know you have a bar code on your arm. What's the significance of that?***

I just wanted something different. Everyone seemed to have the same things. That was my first tattoo—that, and the Japanese Kanji.

***What's your new piece?***

Unfortunately, we couldn't get a picture of it, but my newest piece is my whole arm's skeletal structure, and it's made from this clear-based liquid that lights up in the dark if there's blacklight. It goes all the way from my elbow to my fingers, and it was the most painful tattoo. It took six-and-a-half hours, and they had to do it once, and then do it again a month later, because it's really light. During the day, no one can even tell that it's tattooed at all, but when you walk into a club under the blacklight, you turn into Skeletor for a minute. People are always asking me about it. I tell 'em, 'Chemo, dude.'



# Forbidden Ink

## ROBERT WILLARD



Robert Willard realized his artistic flair when others were still learning to roll over. While first learning to master the art of sketching, he was later introduced to tattooing after friends noticed his unique talent and wanted Willard to eventually design their ink. After three years of designing tats for a plethora of people, his blank flesh canvas was finally marked when he got a tattoo himself, leaving him unimpressed with the work. After realizing the abhorrent job the tattooer did on his piece, he picked up a machine, in hopes to always deliver to his clients. In the late '90s, Willard enlisted in the U.S. Army where he continued designing tats for his fellow soldiers. Since his ink slinging has been halted by his position back east—his residence in the Middle East keeps him from displaying his talented work, as ink is viewed as forbidden. Even though this hardcore military leader loves his job training soldiers, his eyes are still set back in the U S of A where he hopes to one day open up a shop all his own.

### **REBEL INK: How long did you serve in the military?**

Robert Willard: Seven years total.

### **What was your rank when you left the service and what was your job?**

E4 (Specialist). I was an 88M (motor transport operator) in the fourth infantry division from 1993-97. Then, I went back into the military when the war kicked off and re-classed to an MP (Military Police) for a three-year stint.

### **How did you get into tattooing out in Iraq?**

I have been doing art all my life. For years, I drew tattoo designs for friends and fellow soldiers. I went back to the States on leave and had a piece I drew tattooed on me. The guy who did the piece wasn't even an artist he was just a stencilist at best. My piece didn't turn out the



way I wanted. *Note to readers: If you don't know your artist or haven't seen his/her work, you need to pay attention to what's going on.*

Anyways, I went back to Iraq with the mentality that if this dude who has no artistic talent can do tattoos, then I can do it better. So, I bought a starter kit from the back of one of my tattoo mags, and had lots of volunteers. Never botched a piece—but have learned quite a few lessons along the way. Now, it's a hobby that I really enjoy.

### **How available are tattooing materials to tattooists—or U.S. soldiers for that matter—out in Iraq?**

When I was in Iraq from 2004 to 2006, I had my supplies shipped from the States. No supplies available in the Middle East. Muslims consider tattoos 'haraam,' meaning forbidden.

### **How did that affect your rep with your clientele?**

Yeah, that was a messy situation with my old company. They claimed





Robert's  
daughter  
Chloe



tattooing was illegal here because it was forbidden. I researched the Kuwaiti laws, and I could never find it written that it was illegal. I think because it is haraam they just don't do it. Kuwait would never let a studio open, I'm sure. I stopped tattooing for a year in fear of losing my job. Then, I kept it on the low and would only tattoo friends and people I knew.

***How large was your clientele when they shut you down?***

Because I was the only tattoo artist in Kuwait, I stayed very busy. I worked my regular job and spent my weekends tattooing. I would do a small piece from time to time on the weekday.

***What are you doing out in Kuwait?***

I'm a Tactical Vehicle Driving Instructor. I train U.S. and Coalition Forces on the U.S. military bases here in the country.

***Why did you decide to move back to the Middle East after getting out of the military?***

I came back out for a few reasons. One, I love working with the military and training soldiers. If something a soldier learned in one of our training programs saves his/her life, then I have done my job. It's rewarding, you know? Secondly, I've been saving to open my own studio stateside. My beautiful wife and daughter (Sunny and Chloe) keep me going with my goals in focus, so I hope to be there soon.

***What are some of the styles you feel most comfortable with tattooing?***

I'm comfortable with most styles. No portraits. I'm big on color. What ever the client wants, right? I really get a kick out of knowing a piece I did will bring someone happiness for the rest of their life.





# TIM CAMPBELL



## SABER INK

52 Rebel Ink



Tim Campbell was introduced to the world of ink back in 1997, when he got his first tattoo. He was 18-years-old, a construction worker in Rossville, Georgia, making a decent living, but still wanting a more substantial career. Before he began tattooing in a shop, Tim practiced on himself, with a tattoo machine that he made himself.

In 2004, after years of practice with his ragged machine, Tim



received his first professional tattoo machine as a gift from his wife. With his new equipment, Tim began tattooing his friends and coworkers, and soon developed the skills and techniques, allowing him to get a job at a local studio where he worked on weekends and a few nights during the week. Tim's passion grew stronger while he continued to work with his clients, but as the bills piled up, he had to make the choice between the devotion to his art and supporting his family.

Campbell went back to his basement, where tattooing

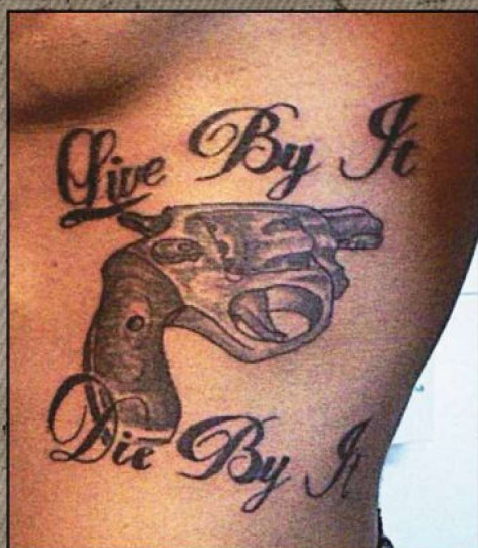




returned to being a hobby until 2007, when he joined the Army. Tim was sent to serve in Germany, and quickly adapted to his new lifestyle. His talent, however, did not stay hidden from his platoon members., and soon, tattooing transformed from a part-time job, to a way of stress relief and relaxation on the base.

Now in Iraq, Tim still maintains his regiment, inking his comrades on most nights. For an hour or two, Tim relaxes from the stress of war by putting his talent to good use by tattooing. Tim's experience has grown exponentially, as his clientele list increased with more soldiers who wanted ink from a talented tattoo artist instead of the run-of-the-mill soldier who kinda knows how to ink.

Tim estimates that he has done over 300 tattoos without sticking to a specific theme. Instead he tries to expand his skills to different styles of tattooing. He has done everything from flowers to skulls—sleeves to backs—initials and memorials. After more than a decade of tattooing, Tim hopes to develop his skill even more, and to someday make it into a lasting career.





# **“Red”** **SYDNEY** **BITCHIN’ INK**

Photography by Miss Missy

Article by Razor Leary

Hair: Danielle Tunmire

Make up: Natasha Maruska







Dallas diva Sydney aka "Red" wears the "Bad Bitch" label like a badge of honor. This



modern day flower child established herself as a lady big on principles and attitude during her short stint on "The Bad Girls Club." Red was also seen wearing her heart and sexuality on her sleeve (next to her old-school tats) on the MTV reality program, "True Life."



**REBEL INK: Your ink is very cool and old school. What draws you to that style?**

Sydney: I grew up in a household where my parents were kind of like, 'flower parents.' I was like a 'flower child,' so I love a lot of old school [ways of life]. I feel like I was supposed to have been born in either, you know, in the '50s, or late '60s going into the '70s; so I could at least, maybe make Woodstock. I really feel like my heart belongs back, back in the day. That's just where I think I would have had a lot more fun.

**Part of the script on your right arm says, "It's better to be absolutely ridiculous than absolutely boring." Are those words you live by?**

Oh, absolutely. I'm entirely way too spontaneous, and you know, I can be a little obnoxious sometimes. I'm just very outgoing; I've got a very strong personality, and it's always been like that since I was younger. So, like, that really applies to my lifestyle, absolutely.

**Where do you go for your work?**

I have [Dallas artist]

Adrian Evans;  
he did my  
side, he  
did the  
back  
of





my neck tattoo, which is tiny—and he did some of my other work. And I also have work from Dillon from Vitality Tattoo (Dallas, TX).

***You come across as very laid back. How did you get involved with the “Bad Girls Club?”***

Well, I’m nice until necessary. That’s just how it’s always been. I grew up with a lot of men in my life; I have a lot of brothers. I have an estranged sister—but I grew up around a lot of male figures, so, my personality can be extremely nice, but if you rub me the wrong way, or you give me a reason not to like you—don’t expect me to be your friend in the next two hours. I will hold a grudge, for a long time, and sometimes, I open up my mouth when it’s not the best time to open up my mouth. I’m a bad girl, and I tend to not think before I speak. But, I think more, so I’m a bad girl because of my lifestyle—because of my attitude—just the entire package. That’s why I think I’m a bad girl. It doesn’t mean I have to put down people to better myself, it just means being a bad bitch, being a badass, and holding your own. I always say at the end of every episode: ‘Live out Loud,’ and that’s just the best way to explain it.

***How would you describe your experience being on the “Bad Girls Club?”***

It was the worst experience of my life. I’m not going to lie to you. I’m not going to say it was peachy-keen, because it wasn’t. I have never really been that type of girl that has surrounded myself with a lot of estrogen, and “Bad Girls Club” was like estrogen overload for me. It was the worst experience for me, but, at the same time, I gained five beautiful women as my girl-

friends, and they will forever be my girlfriends, and they will be in my wedding.

***You’ve also said that you’re a bad girl because life labels you a “bad bitch.” Are you comfortable with the “bitch” label?***

Yes, absolutely. I have it tattooed on me. It’s in Spanish. It’s on my left side opposite my cherry blossom tattoo. If you think about it, ‘bad bitch’ has really made a name for itself. If you’re a ‘bad bitch,’ people look at you and people are like, ‘Damn, that girl’s bad.’

***I caught a rerun of the MTV “True Life” episode that you were on, and the premise of the show was that you were unable to decide which sex you wanted your ultimate life partner to be. Is that an issue for you?***

It is, and it isn’t. For me, as a woman, I feel that if I find a woman, then I’ll fall in love and get married and we’ll adopt. I have that attraction to women, but at the same time, at the end of the day, I want a man that I can start a family with—that I can have children with—like a family with a white picket fence, with my two cars, and my two wonderful straight-A student kids. You know, I want that at some point in my life.

***Another tattoo I wanted to ask you about is the script on your wrist.***

That’s Jimmy Hendrix. I told you, I’m a flower child.

***Is that a sugar skull beneath it?***

It’s a sugar skull, yeah. I’m about to go get it colored in. My uncle passed away, he committed suicide, so that’s for him, and it’s also for my dad—he just passed away the day after Christmas.

***Is there a story behind that image of the zombie girl on your right arm?***

Yeah, there’s definitely a little story behind it. I’m a big fan of Bettie Page. I just find her extremely interesting along with Audrey Hepburn and Marilyn Monroe. I just find those three women to be the perfect woman that you need to be in your life.

Audrey Hepburn is so outspoken. I picked Bettie Page because she just seems like a very strong-willed woman. She follows her heart with happiness and things. And the reason we made her a zombie is because for a while, Bettie was in the hospital, and she was very sick. And she woke up and they had high hopes for her, and they thought she was going to be healthy again, so she started working again throughout the porn business. It’s almost like she was resurrected—she was brought back to life—and the reason I kept it zombie is because she died, not too long after that. So I just find her to be almost like an idol for me.

***sydneyred.com***

Clothing provided by: [bet-tiepageclothing.com](http://bet-tiepageclothing.com) and [pinupgirlclothing.com](http://pinupgirlclothing.com)



# "Red"

*I have never really  
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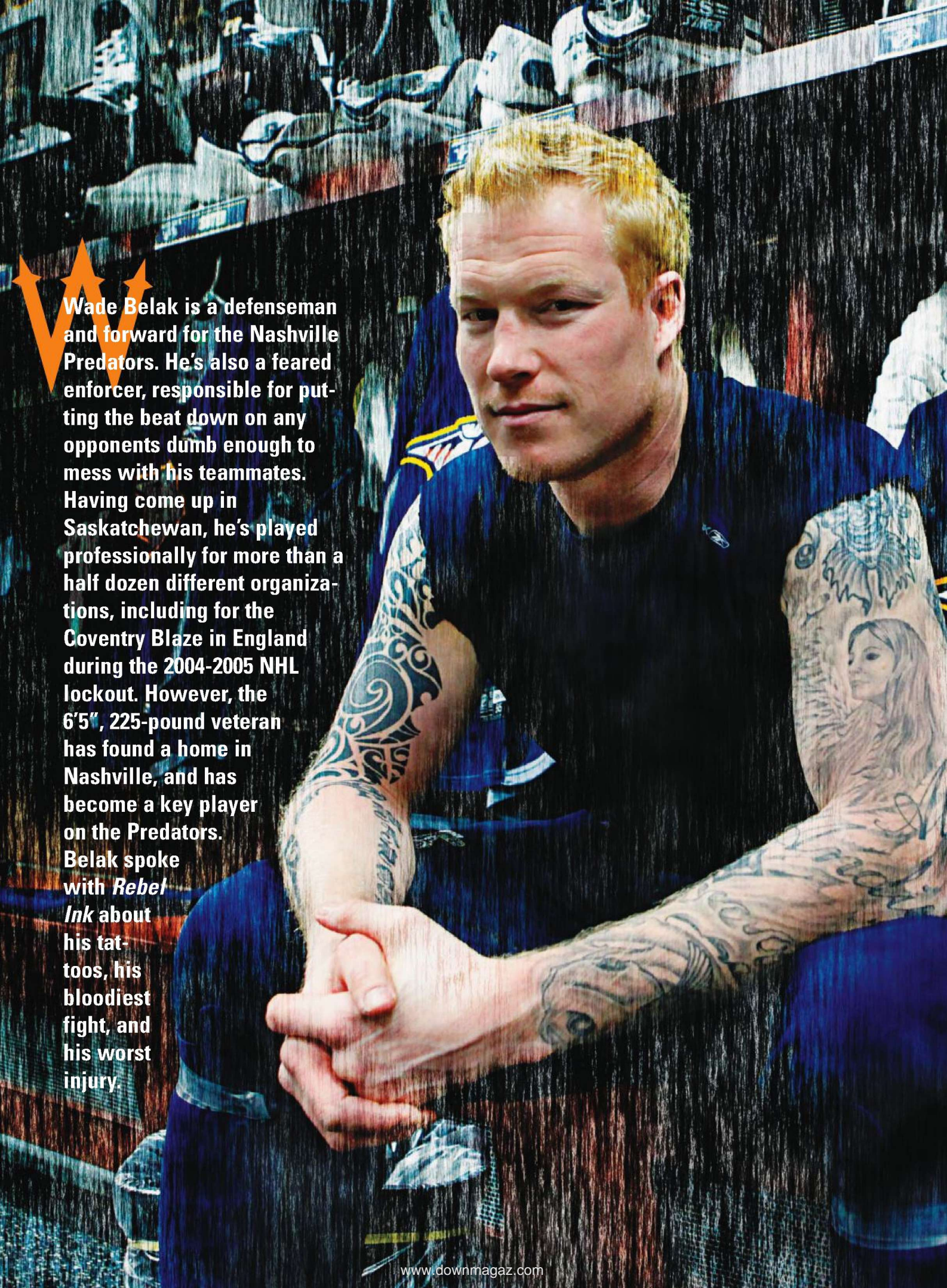






Rebel Ink





**W**ade Belak is a defenseman and forward for the Nashville Predators. He's also a feared enforcer, responsible for putting the beat down on any opponents dumb enough to mess with his teammates. Having come up in Saskatchewan, he's played professionally for more than a half dozen different organizations, including for the Coventry Blaze in England during the 2004-2005 NHL lockout. However, the 6'5", 225-pound veteran has found a home in Nashville, and has become a key player on the Predators. Belak spoke with *Rebel Ink* about his tattoos, his bloodiest fight, and his worst injury.



# THE BELAK



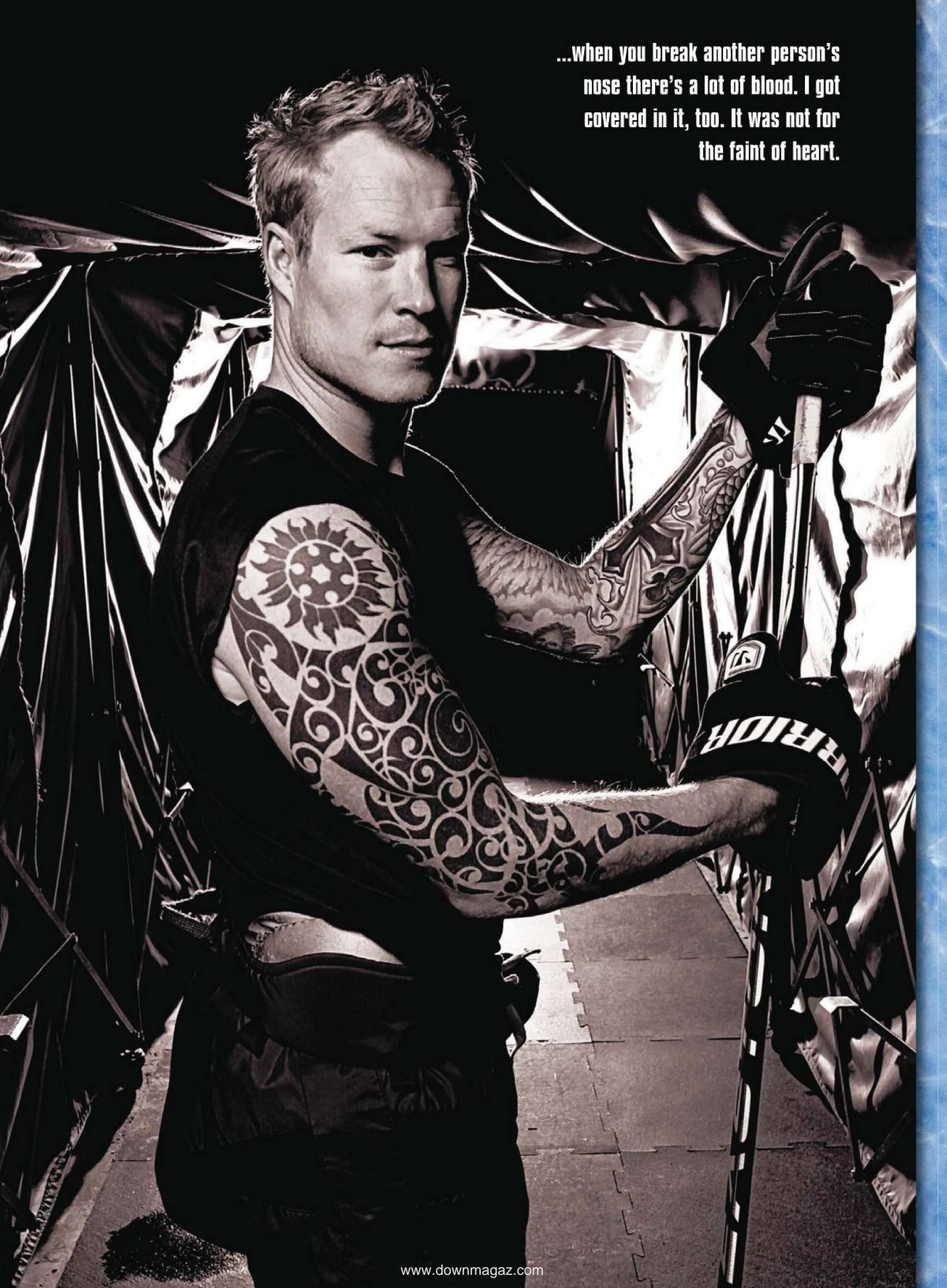
Photo by Jeff Gross/Getty Images

# ENFORCER INK

Photography  
by Roderick  
Trestail  
Article by Ben  
Westhoff



...when you break another person's  
nose there's a lot of blood. I got  
covered in it, too. It was not for  
the faint of heart.







**REBEL INK: Who do you go to for your tattoo work?**

Belak: I've had pieces done in Toronto, British Columbia, Denver and L.A., but most of my work was done in Florida, where I lived briefly. Danny at Mob Ink in Boca Raton (<http://www.mobink.com/>) did a lot of my angel work, the Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo stuff, and a big koi fish down my arm.

**What's the significance of your tattoo on your left arm—with your wife as a guardian angel?**

I like angels a lot, and after my daughter was born, I wanted to get a big guardian angel down the side of my arm. They made the angel resemble my wife, and the names of my two daughters are across the wing. It means a lot to me. My wife is kind of like the guardian angel for me and the kids.

**You've got a big black tribal piece on your right arm.**

I got that one in Toronto at Yonge Street Tattoos (<http://www.yongestreettattoos.com/>). I told the guy I wanted a big piece to fill up my whole arm. He actually designed it and made this huge wall-board cutout. It looked very cool, and was very unique. It took a long time, but I think it covers the arm well.

**Your first tat was Yosemite Sam on your back, right? But then you had it covered with a scary mask.**

Yeah. I got Yosemite Sam when I was 16. But, that tat didn't end up going with the rest of my collection, so I

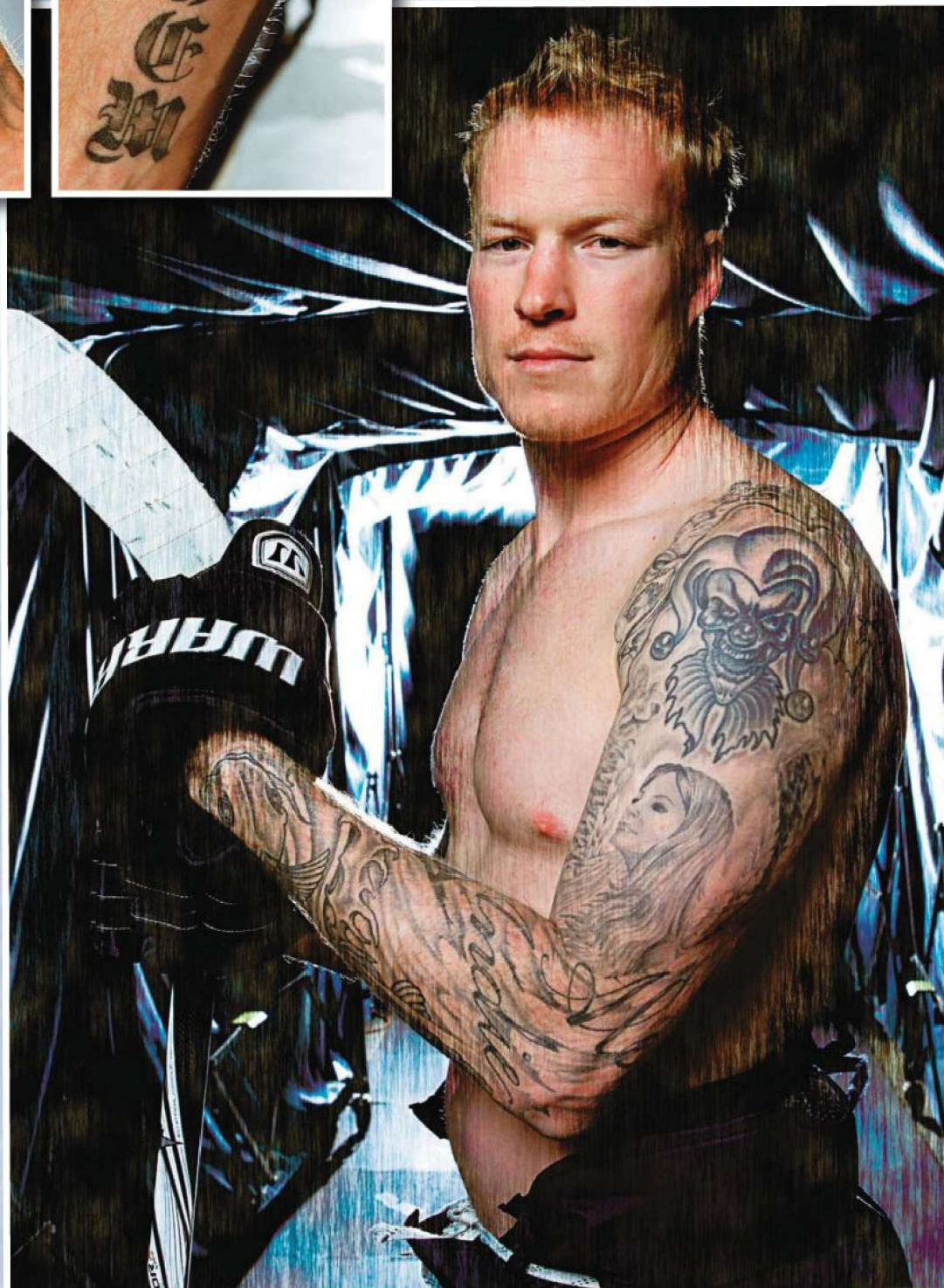
had it covered up with a mask that the guy in Denver just kind of made up. There were so many colors in the Yosemite Sam tattoo, they had to blend them all in. Now, I always tell people that the scary mask is what my wife looks like in the morning.

**I'll bet she loves that.**

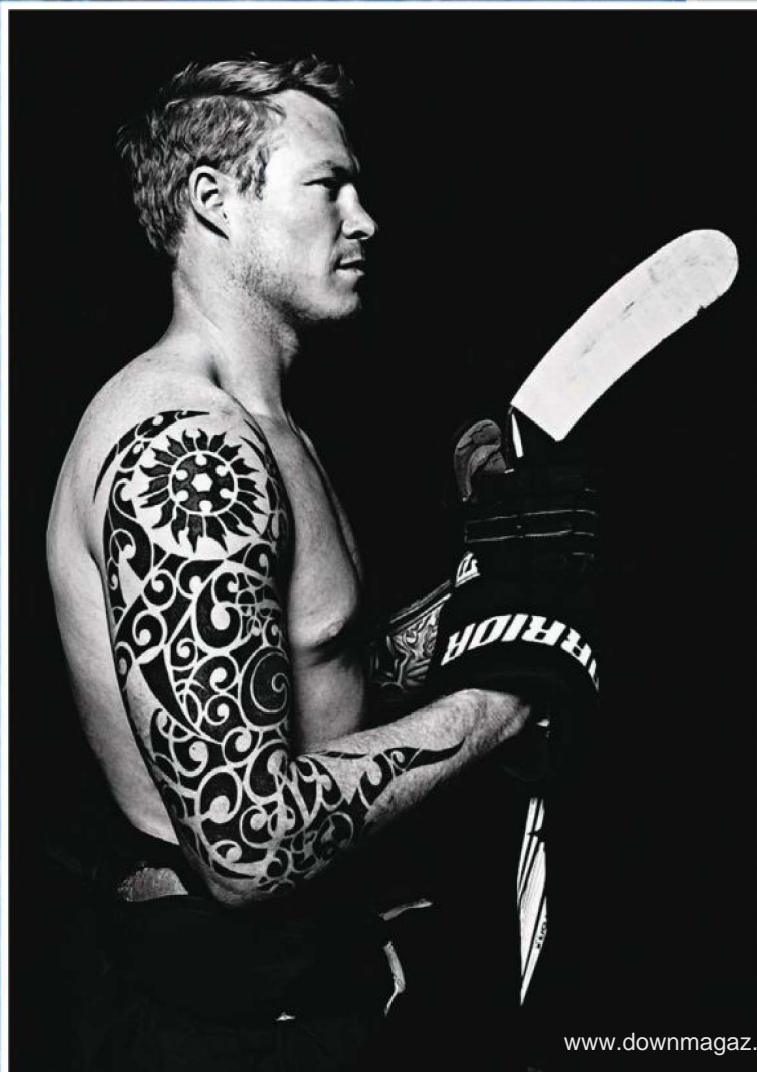
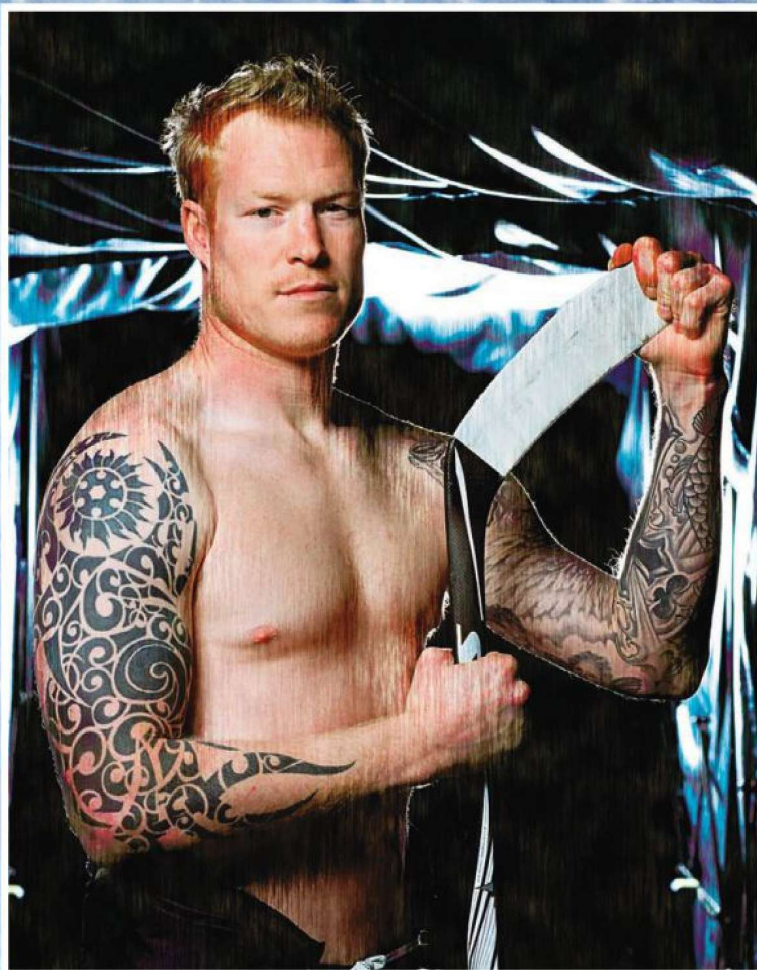
Oh yeah! Actually, she hates that tat because it scares most kids.

**As a child, did you ever think you would one day be an enforcer?**

No. I grew up playing hockey, and when I was young, I was pretty good and scored a lot of goals. As I started to grow, I became the biggest







player on the team, and had to be more physical. I enjoyed the body checking part of the game. My first year of juniors—when I was 16-17—I played a big, tough, physical game. I felt it was my duty to protect the other players, especially the smaller guys who were being picked on. I wouldn't back down from any situation. Over time, [being an enforcer] has become my niche, and has helped keep me around in the NHL.

***What's the worst, bloodiest fight you've ever gotten into?***

It was with Ryan VandenBussche when he was in Chicago, but it wasn't my blood, it was his. That was probably the bloodiest, because when you break another person's nose there's a lot of blood. I got covered in it, too. It was not for the faint of heart.



***What's the worst injury you've ever received?***

Probably when I separated my shoulder. I was diagnosed with fifth degree separation, and it was the worst thing ever. After I got injured I had to ride a bus back [home] for five hours, and then I had to wait two to three days before I could have surgery.

***After you've been in a fight, how many Advils does it take for you to be able to fall asleep?***

[Laughs.] I usually take four Ibuprofens every morning as a daily ritual. The older you get, the harder it is after a fight. When you're younger it seems like you can fight every day, but when you get older you definitely feel a little sore.



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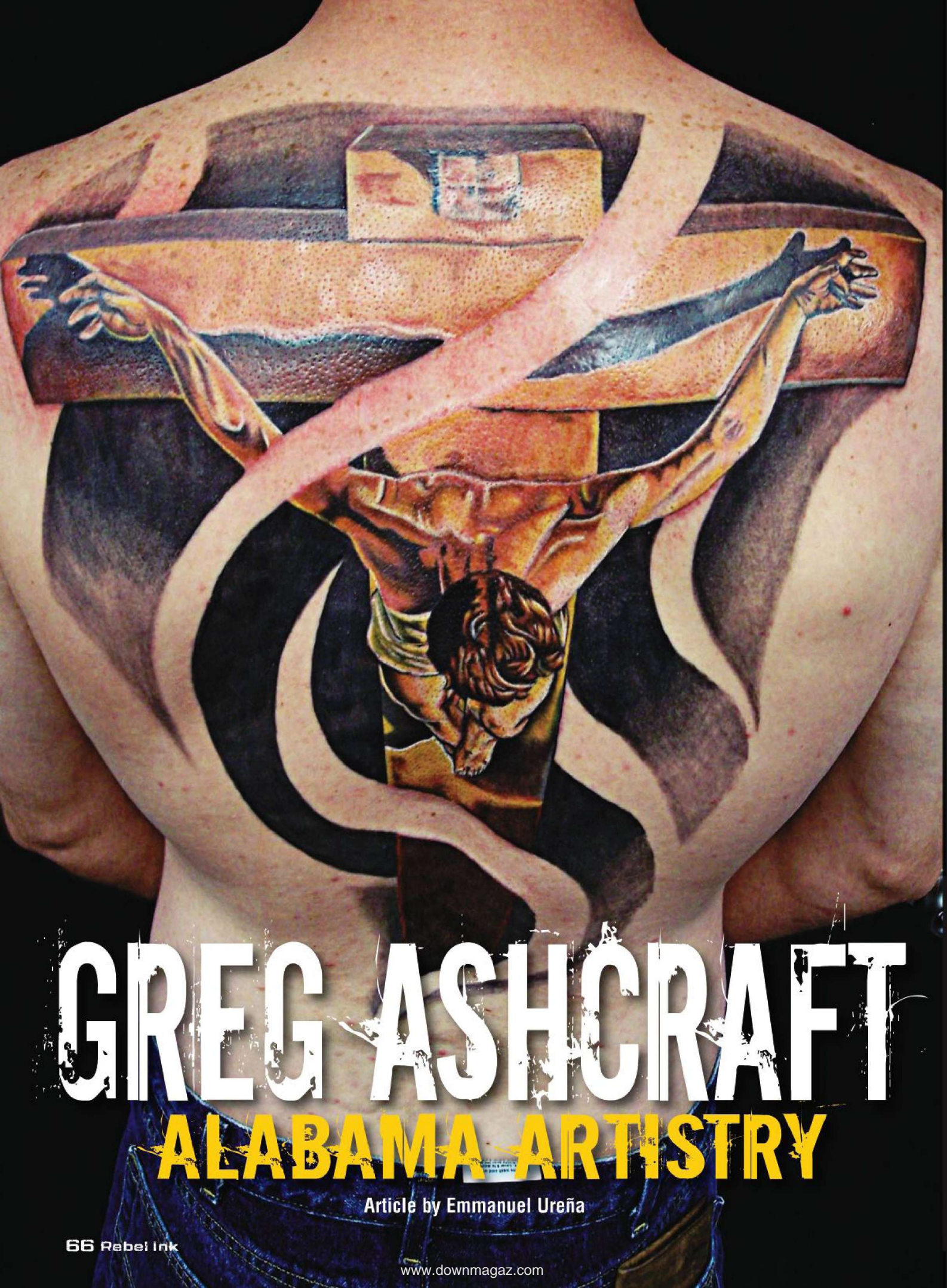
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# GREG ASHCRAFT

## ALABAMA ARTISTRY

Article by Emmanuel Ureña



**D**rawing since before he could write his name, it was no wild guess that Greg Ashcraft would one day devote his life to the arts. Although an artistic drive has fueled his passion for paint, the thought of tattooing never crossed his mind. His fate changed, however, when while he was drawing, Greg noticed that painting and tattooing are related in the way you can layer colors for a more realistic blend.

Forgoing brushes to needles, Greg soon discovered that his obstacles were going to be long and tedious if he wanted his drilling dream realized—for instance, his location.

Greg had some opposition when he decided to open up Skinworx Tattoo Studio in Pelham, Alabama back in 1995, and even though the rest of the country seems to shrug the sight of ink on flesh, Alabama is a tad behind the times as far as embracing the tattooed community. Yet, little by little, people in Alabama are getting tattooed more and stared at less, and with the help of Greg Ashcraft, he vows to help change the state with the one-track mind—to a more ink-friendly province—one tattoo at a time.



**REBEL INK: How difficult was it to open up shop in Alabama where tattooing has yet to be accepted by the majority of society?**

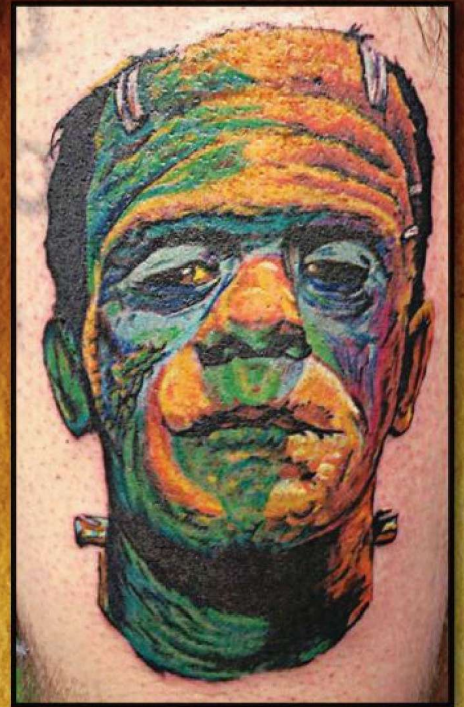
Greg Ashcraft: As far as Alabama being behind on acceptance for tattooing, the state itself is accepting, but the people are not. They naturally think we are bad people because we choose to cover our bodies with tattoos. We are working on changing that mentality.

**Have you always been into the arts, or is that something that gradually evolved throughout your life?**

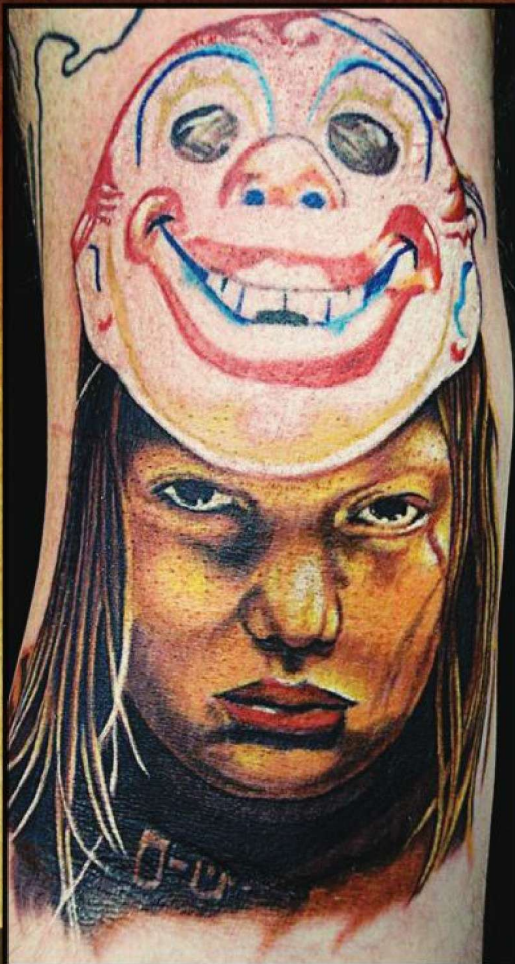
I have been an artist since before I could write. I've always had an eye for art of all types. I've always enjoyed getting into different styles of art—learning what I could from it, and moving on to another style. Sometimes I incorporated all the styles together to create my own style.











***How did you make the connection from a painter to a tattooist? What sparked the transition?***

I just realized how similar both could be. A lot of the same principles apply—it's just a different technique to apply to your canvas. I noticed one day while I was painting, I could throw hints of background color in the main subject matter, which really brought it all together and made it pop.

***Are there any other artists in your family or were you the first?***

My mother is an artist. I can remember when I was a child asking her to draw me monsters, aliens and such. So, she was a big inspiration to me growing up.

***From where do you draw your inspiration for your art?***

I draw my inspiration from everywhere. Other tattoo artists, movies, outdoors, advertisements, painters and artists of all mediums. Art is all around us, we just have to have an open eye for it and allow our brains to warp it into something else to create our own designs.

***What style of tattooing do you prefer?***

I prefer portraits, color, black and grey, wildlife, realism and Japanese style. However, I am a versatile artist capable of doing any and every style. But I will admit, I have my preferences in what I like to do.



***Have you ever displayed your artwork in a gallery of sorts? If so, where would someone go to check your work out?***

I've never displayed any of my artwork in any galleries, but I am working on a lot of wildlife paintings that I hope to be recognized for one of these days. I will keep you updated on that as it progresses.

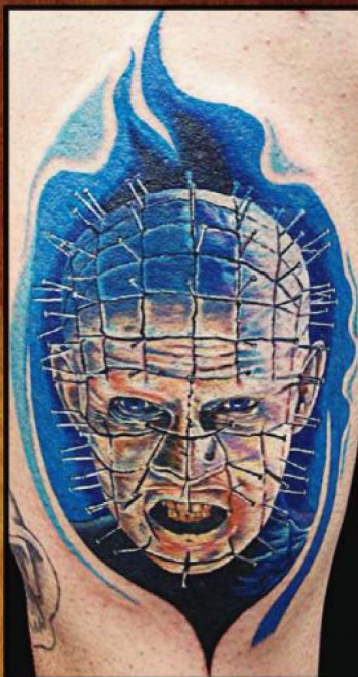
***What are you doing when you're not tattooing or painting?***

When I'm not tattooing or painting, I enjoy the outdoors. I love to









hunt and fish. I love to watch horror movies. But, most of my time goes towards researching and drawing custom designs for my customers.

***You seem to have a pretty interesting collection of tats yourself. Can you talk a bit about your own collection?***

Deano Cook at Psycho Tattoo in Marietta, Georgia did my right sleeve. It's a wildlife theme, which stems from my love of the outdoors. My left sleeve is an organic piece done by Wesley Lingerfelt at Eternal Expressions in Rome, Georgia. It was a grueling process because I lasered off a whole sleeve first, and then Wesley custom designed me a brand new sleeve. I have a Frankenstein on my right calf done by Joshua Carlton at Great American Tattoo Company in Shelbyville, Indiana. I have a Japanese foo dog and a hannya mask that covers my whole chest done by Nails at Northshore Tattoo in Chattanooga, Tennessee. My back piece—an eagle holding onto a deer skull—is currently in progress by James B. Shane who is one of my artists here at the Skinworx shop.

I have done a few of my own tattoos. I have the word "reborn" and a skull with two tattoo machines on my stomach. Also, I have a zombie chimpanzee on the inside of my right calf I did as a cover-up, and since I'm from Alabama, I have a banjo on my left knee. For Father's Day, when my son was 13, I let him tattoo a skull and heart on my left shin. In the next couple of weeks I'm going to do my mother's first tattoo, and I'm going to let her tattoo me.

**Skinworx Tattoo**

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Pelham A.L. 35124

[www.skinworx.net](http://www.skinworx.net)

[www.myspace.com/tatted4life](http://www.myspace.com/tatted4life)



A full-page photograph of a woman with extensive tattoos, including a skull on her left shoulder and various designs on her arms and legs. She is wearing a gold, form-fitting dress and a black veil with a gold headband. She is posing with one hand near her face and the other raised behind her head. The background is a gold, quilted fabric.

REBEL PINK

Tori Lane is a make-up artist, photographer, alt-model, and professional body piercer with Royal Street Tattoo in Alabama. Royal Street is one of the leading parlors in Mobile, AL, with the shop now becoming a chain with a second location in the neighboring city of Daphne.

Tori Lane

Photography by Amelia Hall  
Article by T.K. Whelton





**REBEL INK:** *Would you say that the ink you wear is more of a meaningful artistic expression, or a means of beautifying your appearance?*

The funny thing is, I've always thought my tattoos made me look tough. The truth is, I'm about 5'4," and always smiling. There is nothing intimidating about me. But, if you don't know me, you might think twice about saying something rude if I'm covered in tattoos, right?



**Your ink collection is very unique. Who is your artist of choice?**

I started getting tattooed at a very young age. At that time, I did it as a form of rebellion. Not understanding the difference in quality, I got covered very quickly by people who didn't respect the industry—or me. Suzette at Royal Street has been helping me cover some of my earlier work, using negative spaced designs and lots of black. CW Neese, Sean Herman, Pete Anderson and AJ Ludlow have done some amazing pieces on me, and I look forward to having more done soon.

**That portrait on your right forearm is amazing. What is the story behind that piece?**

Thanks! That's a Gypsy head on my forearm, done by



Paul Averette. I had a tattoo that I needed covered. He drew up a Gypsy, and I tapped out before he could finish it. He gives me grief over that half-done tattoo every time he sees me.

**Do you have a close spiritual relationship with Saint Anne? What inspired you to get her portrait on your arm?**

St. Anne is the mother of our beloved Virgin Mary. Although I'm not Catholic, faith as helped me through the roughest parts of my life. That piece is a constant reminder and thanks to those who are not here with me today.

**In the photo where you hold up your fingers to show-off your "Brutiful" ink, you are sneering at the camera. What does it take to unleash your "brutiful" side?**

I have wanted my knuckles done for a while. I was modeling more then, and someone called me that—beautiful, but brutal. I was in Florida and Oliver Peck was doing a tattoo spot. I figured, if I'm gonna get tattooed by him, I want everyone to see it. I usually unleash that side when a camera is on me. Nowadays, I feel most 'brutiful' in the produce section





when adorable old ladies ask me what it means. [Laughs]

***On your neck you have a cool dog portrait. Is that a memorial to a pet?***

That's my favorite tattoo, CW Neese—the love of my life—tattooed our Chihuahua, Toad, on me about two years ago. Toad is the smallest of our four dogs, but the Alpha male of the house. I couldn't imagine life without our puppies. They make me feel so loved after a long day's work!

***Tell us a bit about the vibe at Royal Street Tattoo?***

The vibe at Royal Street Tattoo is very artistic. Everyone is constantly tattooing, drawing and painting. I've even started working with watercolor. It's much tougher than I ever imagined it to be, but so addicting. Other than artistic, we are all very close; everyone here is family and there isn't any bad-mouthing, or out of control egos. Each client gets a tattoo with influences of everyone there to insure the greatest quality possible. Royal Street has been open in historic downtown Mobile, Alabama for almost four years, and opened its second location this past summer.

***If people reading this article want to come get pierced or say hello, are you in the shop full time?***

At this moment, I'm at the shop from open to close, working my behind off. I specialize in dermal anchors and basic body

piercings—using only titanium and no biopsy punches, piercing guns, or plastic jewelry. My clients mean the world to me. I look forward to making each experience unique, and providing a comfortable, sterile environment for them to have the best modification possible. On our off days, I'm behind the camera with Xindi Pictures, and I've started making latex clothing, too. I never stop moving!

Royal Street Tattoo  
110 North Royal Street  
Mobile, AL 36602-3602  
(251) 432-4772

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Facebook.com/xindi.pictures





# Every Time I Die

## Ink Happens

Photography by Universal Photo  
Article by Amy Sciarretto





**E**very Time I Die, display interesting dichotomies that not only parallels in their music, but also with their eccentric, and often hilarious, tattoos. While they are as serious as an STD diagnosis about their unique sound, their non-stop party of a live show mirrors their out-there attitudes. These Buffalo natives are noting if not shy about their snarky, smart sense of humor—which lovingly rubs off in their live performances. If one is interested in attending an ETID show, rest assured that a guaranteed good time will unfold as the band fires off their dirty, noisy, gnarly rock anthems.









Those same guiding principles apply to the copious amounts of ink that adorn singer, Keith Buckley, and guitarist, Andy Williams, that is heavily designed with the concept of “Living in the moment.” However, while their tattoos are representative of a specific time and place—and might seem superfluous on the surface to a casual observer—they all have a deeper meaning—even if they were not intended as such.

Buckley acknowledged that while being serious about the “art” part of tattoos, his intention to profess his skin art is also a must. “People who think too much about tattoos are the ones who instantly regret them. I try not to think too hard and let them represent whatever mindset I am in, and for me, that means in a perpetually neurotic mindset,” he mused.

Buckley is known for his “Keith, You Are Not the Father” tattoo, which is a reference to Maury Povich’s famous proclamation on his trash talk t.v. show where suspected baby daddies get a DNA test, with the end results revealed on stage—not to mention, the nation. Buckley explained the significance of his tattoo, which might elicit a laugh at first. “Maury has no idea what is going on, and has no intention of helping anyone figure things out,” Buckley said. “All he does is give money to do DNA tests, but emotionally and psychologically, he is blatantly exploiting them and the people who appear on the show and take the tests ask for it. It’s humanity at its worse, but I am a fan. It is hard to be a fan of something so disgusting, but it’s hysterical. People don’t realize that the kids are used as a way to get free airfare and a night in a hotel in NYC.”

















The singer, who is also in another heavy side project, The Damned Things—collaborating with members of Anthrax and Fallout Boy—has been working on a piece on his left arm that's an intensely beautiful metaphor come to life. "It's a Japanese story about a lady who fell in love with her caretaker, who was a monk, and they have an unrequited love," Buckley explained. "She got angry, so he hid under a bell, and she struck it with a hammer, which produced heat and burned him alive. That story is about being too aggressive about getting what you want."

How's that for polar opposite parallels—Maury Povich vs. The concept of aggression and unrequited love translated into skin art?

Buckley isn't the only band member with a pop culture reference permanently inked on him. Guitarist, Andy Williams, has the face paint of former WWE [then World Wrestling Federation] wrestler, The Ultimate Warrior. As well as an unfinished Burt Reynolds tattoo on his leg from the *Battle Royale* era.

"I have a mystic goat," Williams said, while sitting outside of an NYC venue a couple of hours before hitting the stage last fall. "I don't know why I got it; I

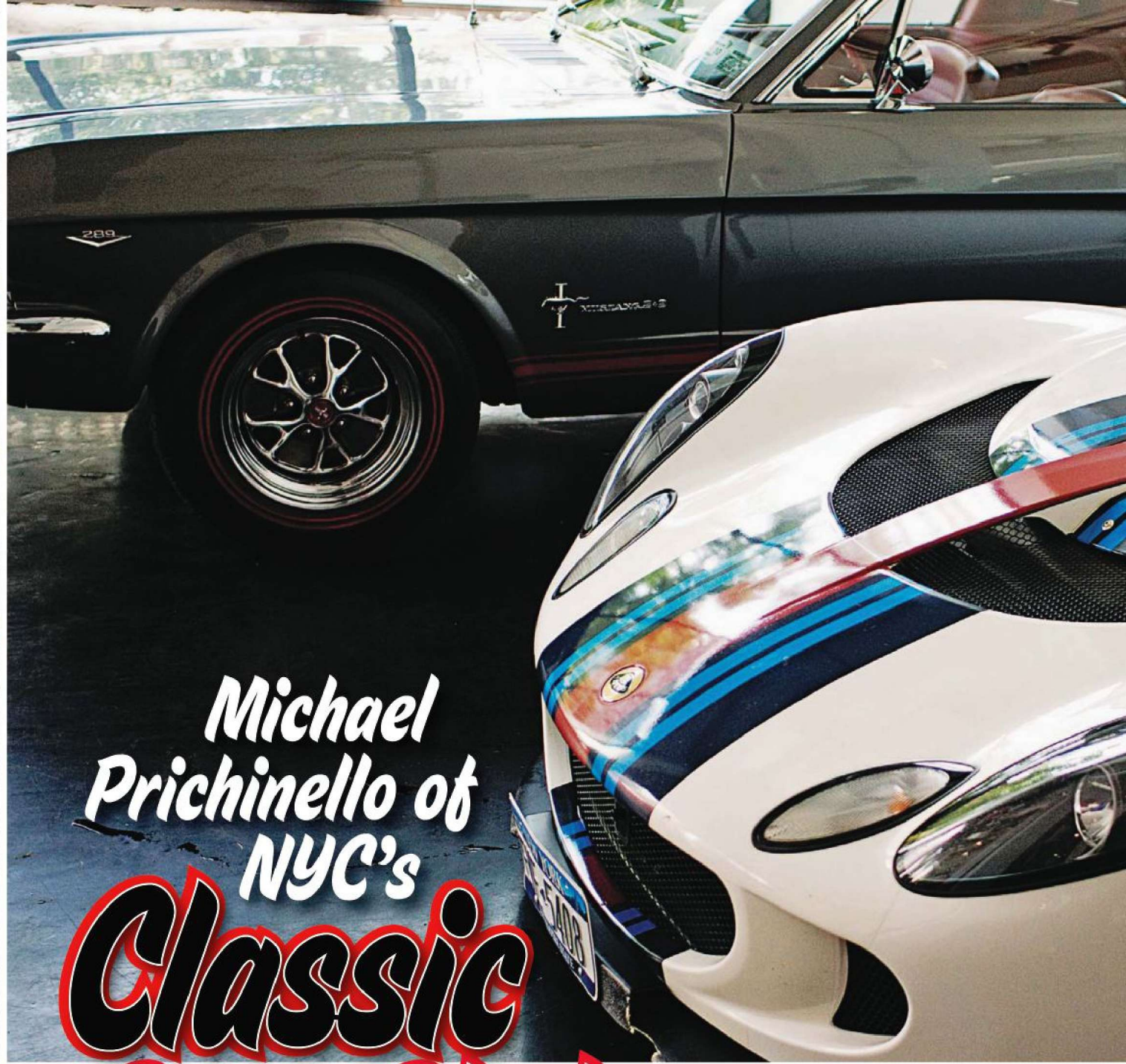
wanted a mystic goat. I also have a Vans shoe, since Vans are the greatest shoe in the world. I also have a losing dice, and a bunch of other dumb stuff."

Williams, who says he likes "tattoos without a grand scheme," said he considered getting his entire skull tattooed, but he hasn't gone through with it—yet.

One of his more humorous pieces is the famous *Pee-Wee's Big Adventure* line: "I know you are, but what am I?" The conversation piece could spark innocence and wonder to those who grew up on the film, however, to Williams, it's a nod to his father. "My mom recently asked me, 'Do you feel like you need to go out of your way to get acceptance from your dad now that you're 32?' I was like, 'What does that mean? My dad and I always used to watch the Pee-Wee comedy show ['Pee-Wee's Playhouse'] together." But like his bandmate, the tattoo is a "time and place" thing, with Williams admitting he got the piece during a nostalgic period when he was watching a lot of Pee-Wee Herman.

Rock dudes who take tattoos unseriously serious? They know they are, but what are you?





# Michael Prichinello of NYC's Classic Car Club

## Classic Ink

Photography by Steve Prue  
Article by Ben Westhoff

**Michael Prichinello** is the co-founder of New York's Classic Car Club, and to put it simply—he is the **Willy Wonka** of cars, as his club features every car anyone could dream about. For a surprisingly affordable fee—as little as 8,000 dollars per month—members have access to the club's 50 cars, ranging from a 1955 Porsche Spyder to a brand new Ferrari 458 Italia. The club is frequented by celebrities, has its own bar and lounge, and sponsors member events like scotch tastings and international road rallies. The organization recently expanded to a second New York location in addition to the other branches in the U.K. and Europe. *Rebel Ink* spoke with Prichinello about the club's cars, his favorite of the bunch, and naturally, his tats.





Joana



**REBEL INK:** Your cars include a 1972 De Tomaso Pantera, the same model that Elvis had; but since his never worked, one day he just shot it full of holes, right?

Michael Prichinello: Yeah, he shot it with his .45 caliber. Vince Neil had that car, too, and he crashed it. They both had yellow ones—ours is white.

**Tell us about some of your events.**

In October, we flew to London and drove to Belgium, where we rented out a famous Formula One track. Then we drove to Germany, where we had a fleet of race-prepped Lotus Exiges ready. We probably drove 2,000 miles through Europe in five days. We also drove from New York to Miami with the band The Darkness. Last year, Red Bull invited us to their private hangar in Austria, which is









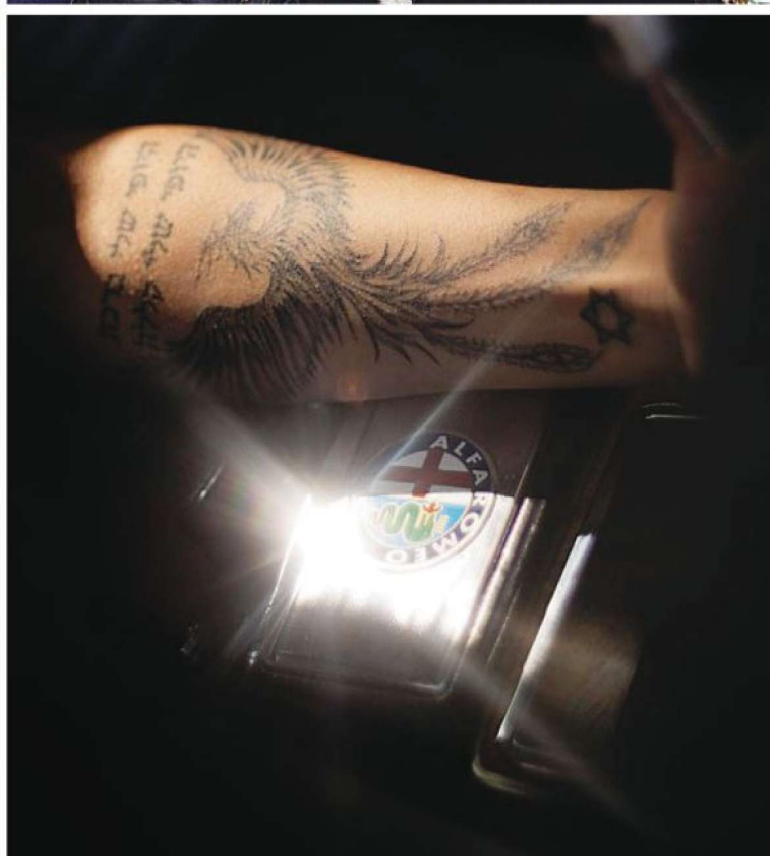


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filled with fighter jets. They took us up in a DC-6 from the '50s, and flew us through the Alps, over glaciers. When we started, we were the first ones doing this, but since then, there have been imitators, but they don't have the classic cars, just the brand new super-cars. There's no variety—a Lamborghini is a lot like a Ferrari, which is a lot like a Maserati.

***What country makes your favorite cars?***

That's a tough one. I'd have to say Germany. I'm a Porsche guy. Italian cars all have passion and soul, but





Porsches are fast as hell. My Porsche 911 GT3 is a robot programmed to kill people—it has no soul. On our new Ferraris, the engine is a piece of artwork. A Porsche engine just looks like the back of a washing machine.

***What is your favorite car—period?***

I'm going to have to go with the first Lamborghini Countache LP400. It's beautifully designed, but mechanically it's a nightmare. It has quirks—like, it just catches on fire when you're driving. The gas tank is up front, so when you run low on gas you lose your steering. You can't go in reverse without sitting on the windowsill, because you can't look out the back.

***What tattoos do you have?***

My chest is actually burning right now, since I just got a chest piece done on Friday. Artist, Fred Harper drew the design ([fredharper.net](http://fredharper.net)). The piece

is a mechanical heart, but the veins are electrical wires, and it looks like the heart pumps steam instead of blood. The valves are plugged with spark plugs, and it drips oil. Timothy Boor of Last Rites Tattoo (<http://www.myspace.com/lastritestattoo>) did it.

***What was the inspiration for the design?***

I had to cover up a tattoo of my ex-wife's name! I have motor oil running in my veins anyway.

***What else do you have?***

My other tattoo is on the inside of my right arm, from my elbow to my armpit. It's a koi fish struggling on a hook. Tom Yak did it—he has his own shop in New Jersey, called Electric Tattoo (<http://electrictattoo.nj.com>). I just like Japanese art, and tattoo art. Everyone says the koi is considered the strongest fish in Japanese culture, so I put a hook in his mouth. Everyone seems to have a





Event coordinator and CCC bartender Jeannette.



Chris Miles







Ford GT





dumb story about what their tats mean, but I don't need to be overly clever about it.

***Getting back to your club's cars, what happens if someone crashes one? Has that ever happened?***

The laws of probability say it's going to happen, but it's only happened maybe three times. But, every member is on our insurance policy—and it's a really good one—so that's taken care of.

***I hear Big Boi came in not too long ago.***

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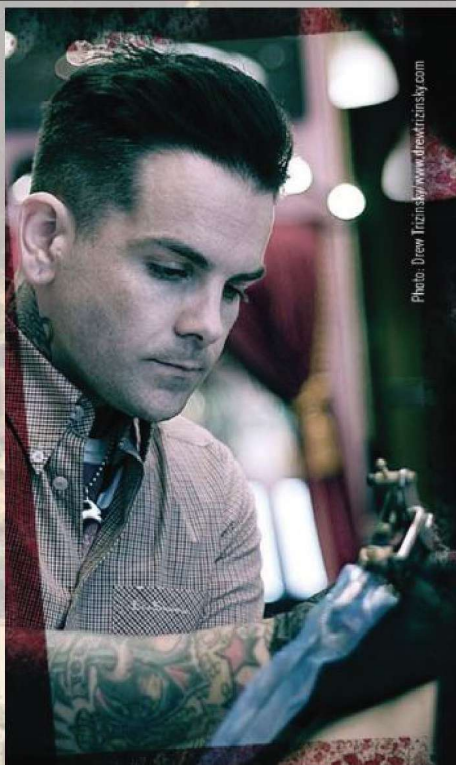


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REBEL PINK

Photography by Robert Alvarado  
Article by Brandi Bennett

# Femke Fatale





Those who have ventured to the International Brussels Tattoo Convention are only too familiar with Femke Fatale, who hosts this highly touted world tattooing event. This Belgian beauty has become one of the most recognized models on the alt scene and we were stoked to shoot her and listen to her thoughts about God, ink's role in society and a tattoo collection to die for.

**REBEL INK:** On your Facebook bio, you say you are "Out of control and at times hard to handle." Can you elaborate on that?

Well, people that know me know I am a hard to handle girl. I love challenges. I am easily bored. I need adventures, and I always have too much stuff to do and never enough time. I know what I want, and I don't go for less. I am not interested in guys. I only want that *one* guy. My mood can change within a second, and I change my mind a lot. I can be stubborn, I can be all over the place—hard to find, hard to get in touch with [Laughs]. Yeah, hard to handle. I am a bit contradictory, too. I am like a mystery. It's hard to predict what I will do or say.

**Those large, character-like portraits in your collection are amazing. Whose work is that?**

I have got an amazing portrait of Johnny Depp, it is a portrait from [1990 film] *Cry-Baby*. This is one of my favorite Johnny Depp characters and movies. So, I decided I needed this tattooed on my leg. It was done by Thibi. He works at Modern Angels Tattoo in Ekeren, Belgium. I will get another Johnny Depp tattoo by him soon—*Edward Scissorhands*—my other favorite. I am very picky when it comes to tattoos. I want them perfect—as perfect as a tattoo can be, of course.

I have also recently gotten a portrait of Captain Spaulding. I have a phobia of clowns, they really freak me out; but in a way, I also love them. This portrait was tattooed by Jay Jay, from Bluebird Tattoo in Sweden. He is one of my favorite tattoo artists. He has also done my left sleeve, and a lot of the tattoos on my legs and neck. He uses amazing colors and amazing custom made designs, which is important to me. Tattoos for me are my stories. 'My body is my journal.' That's a Johnny Depp quote. So, I want them to be unique and amazing.

**What other artists have worked on you?**

I have my ribs tattooed by Uncle Allan (Conspiracy Ink, Copenhagen). The tattoo on











my right ribs is a vampire girl, which is not finished yet, and on the other side I have a crow. It's a very dark tattoo compared to my others, as it stands for my dark side.

Jean Harai (Harai Tattoo, Ghent, Belgium) has also done a big part of my ink. He did the right side of my neck, my hands, right sleeve, my chest piece, and my stomach piece. He is one of the best tattoo artists in Belgium, I think. He is known for amazing colors and awesome custom work, and his thoughts and designs are similar to what I have in mind. You need a tattoo artist who gets you. Getting a tattoo is teamwork. You need to be on one line with the artist.

I also got a stereo tattooed on my belly. And my knuckles—which says, 'baby doll'—was done by Joe Dynamite (Glorybound, Antwerp, Belgium). This is a tribute to Travis Barker. He's an amazing drummer and one of my heroes. Candy Cane (Lady Luck—Weert, The Netherlands) did [my] My Little Pony tattoo, [my] Care Bear tattoo, the ice creams, lollipop and cherries, and Hello Kitties. Every tattoo is so feminine and adorable! I just love it!

My back piece is the work of the great Alex Wuillot (La Main Bleue in Mons, Hainaut Belgium). It is a heart with portrait of a man and a lady and a mirror with a skull face in [it]. I love his tattooing. It is so amazingly realistic and fine. I advise everyone to check him out!

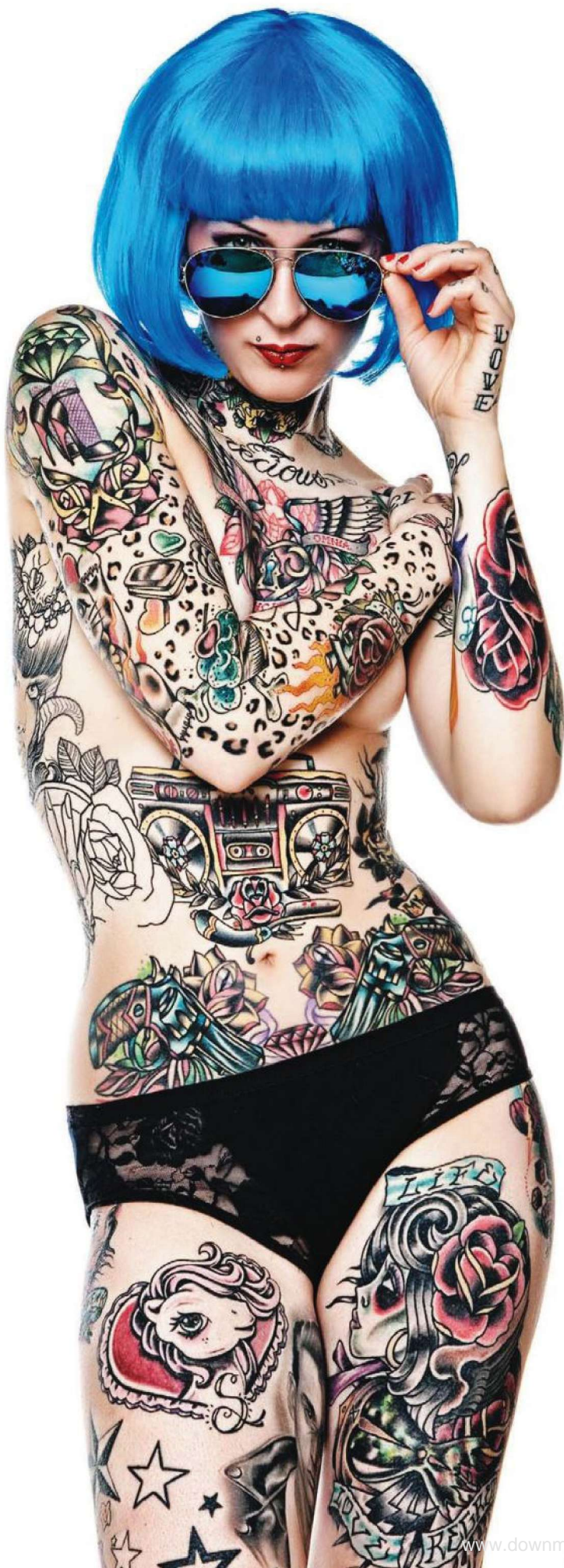
My throat is by the hand of Phil Kyle, best known for his tv work on "London Ink." He did such a great job with the owl. I wanted it cute and colorful, and he made it happen. Most of his work is darker and more old school, so I was extremely excited he wanted to do this!

The 'Lucky You' just above my girlie bits, and the lightning on my face, are from Vinnie Stones (Vinnie Stones, Antwerp, Belgium). I was super-nervous to get the facial ink because you know; *it is so in your face*. It has to be done very precise and he nailed it.

***America, right now, is embracing the tattoo culture. As a model whom has traveled extensively, can you talk a bit about the acceptance and popularity of body art in other societies?***

Yes, I have traveled all over the world and it seems the U.K. and U.S. are the most accepting of tattoos. Belgium is still far behind. It is very hard to find a job here as a heavily tattooed person. Thank God H&M is here, and they accept me for who I am, and I love it. I think shows like "LA Ink," "London Ink" and "Miami Ink" have a lot to do with the upcoming acceptance of being a tattooed person. They show the audience that not only white trash people







are tattooed. This is something a lot of people think, but when they meet heavily tattooed people, they always say, 'Oh my God! I didn't expect them to be so nice and open.' I guess that is because people just look and judge. You need to get to look behind the tattoos. We are very open people, because we are different and we accept other people being themselves and being unique. The world is changing, thank God, but as for traveling, you definitely see the different reactions. In Europe, people just stare at you and think you are a freak. In the U.K. people don't give a sh\*t, and in the U.S., people give you compliments. You got to love the U.S. I have recently visited L.A. and San Francisco and Vegas, and I loved it. The people are so respectful and amazing. I would definitely want to move there.

***I've heard you describe music as being something of a religion for you. Can you give us an example of the role music plays in your life?***

I love music! Music is a way to deal with situations—bad and good. I can easily relate to songs, and they make me get through stuff. I don't pray to God. When bad stuff happens, I just turn on my music. No matter how bummed out you are on life, 'Music pulls you right back up and keeps you positive,' like [Punk band] H2O says. And now, whenever I listen to my albums, I always think back on the time that album helped me through something good or bad.

***It says  
"Precious"  
beneath  
your***

***neck. What is  
precious to you?***

My Family—[my] mom, dad, brother and sister, and my amazing cats, my friends, music, tattoos—and animals in general. I am very thankful for everyone, and everything in my life. They mean the world to me. In life, you need to stay respectful and thoughtful to the ones you love. It helps me keep positive and motivated, too.

[facebook.com/femkefatale](https://facebook.com/femkefatale)

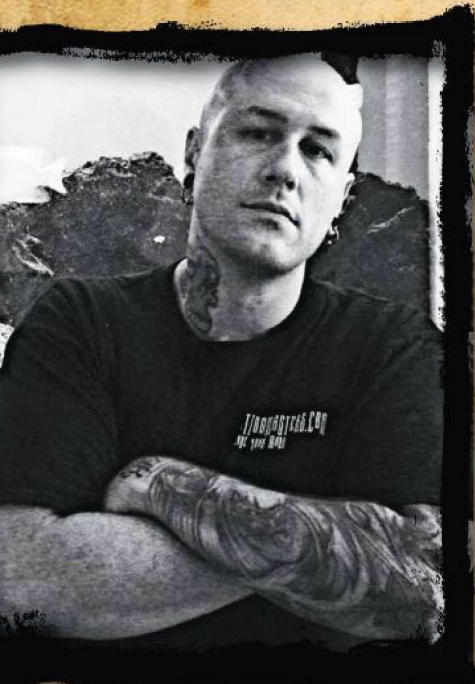




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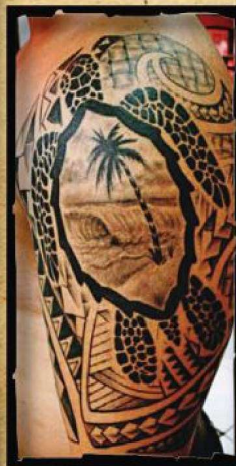
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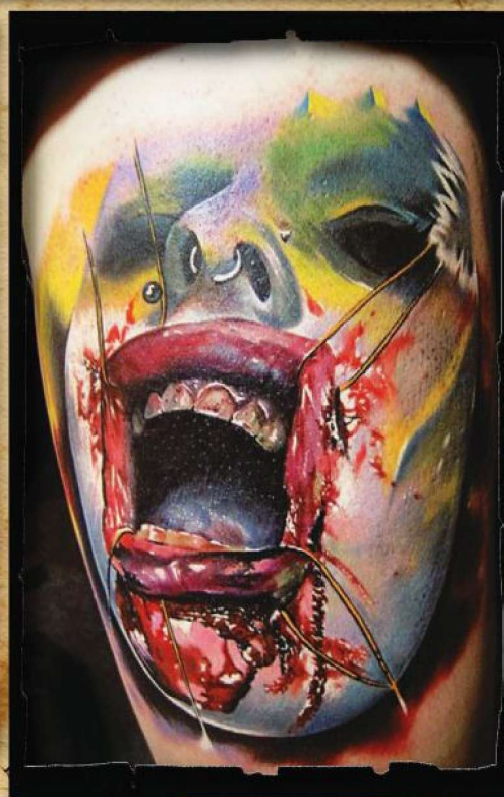
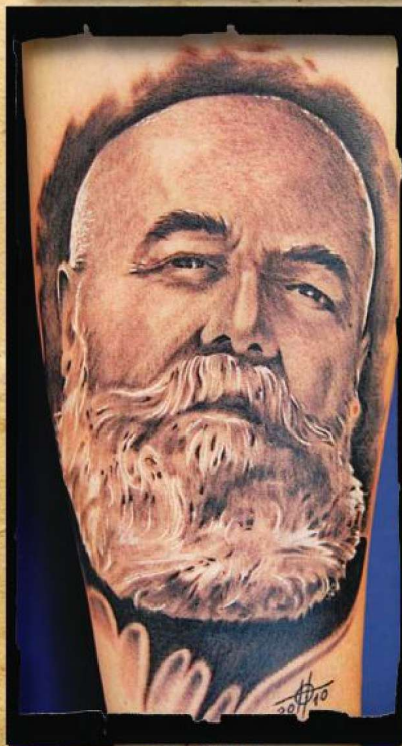






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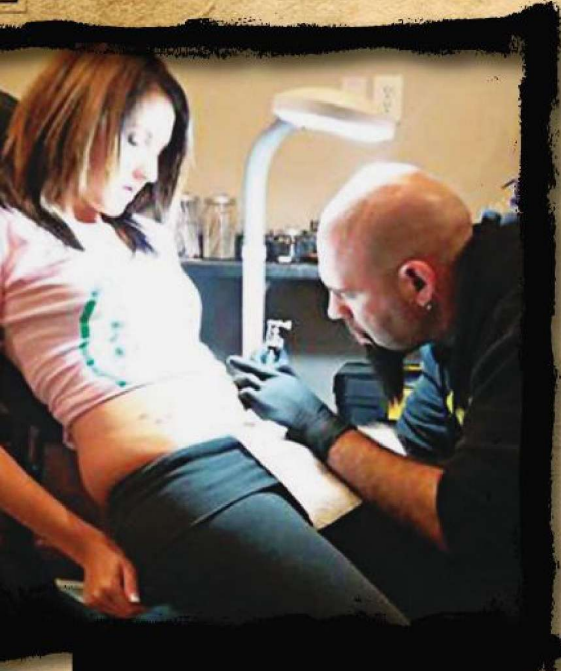




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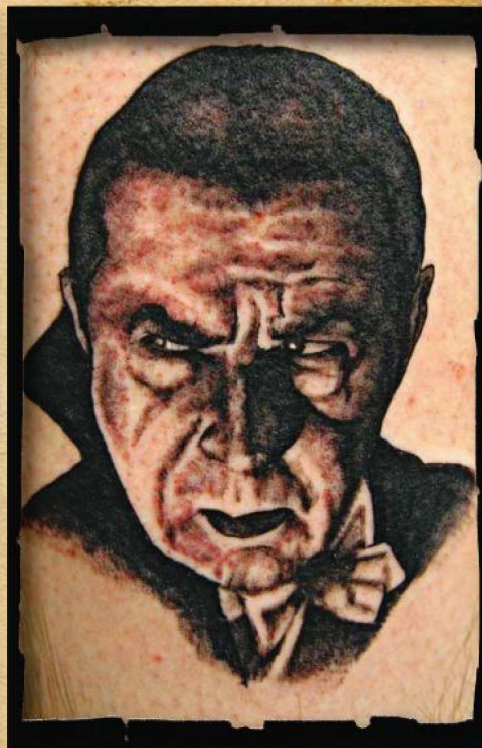
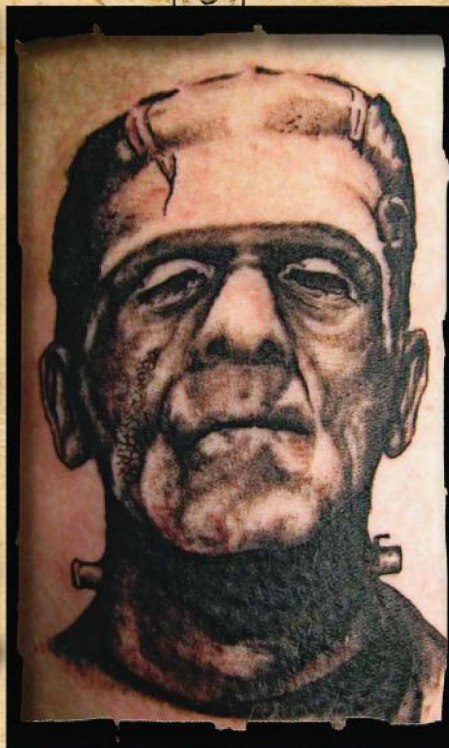
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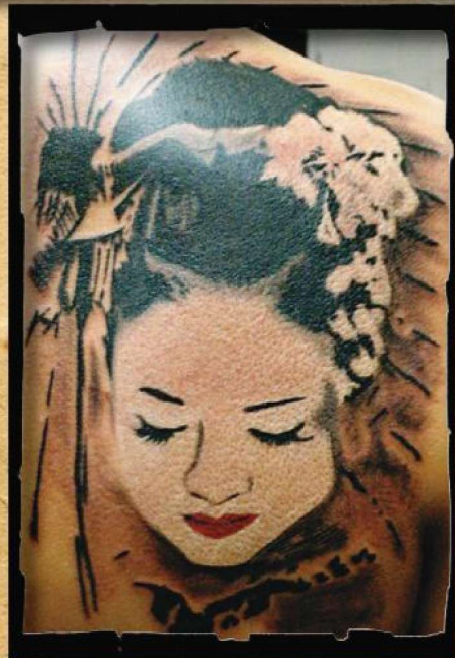
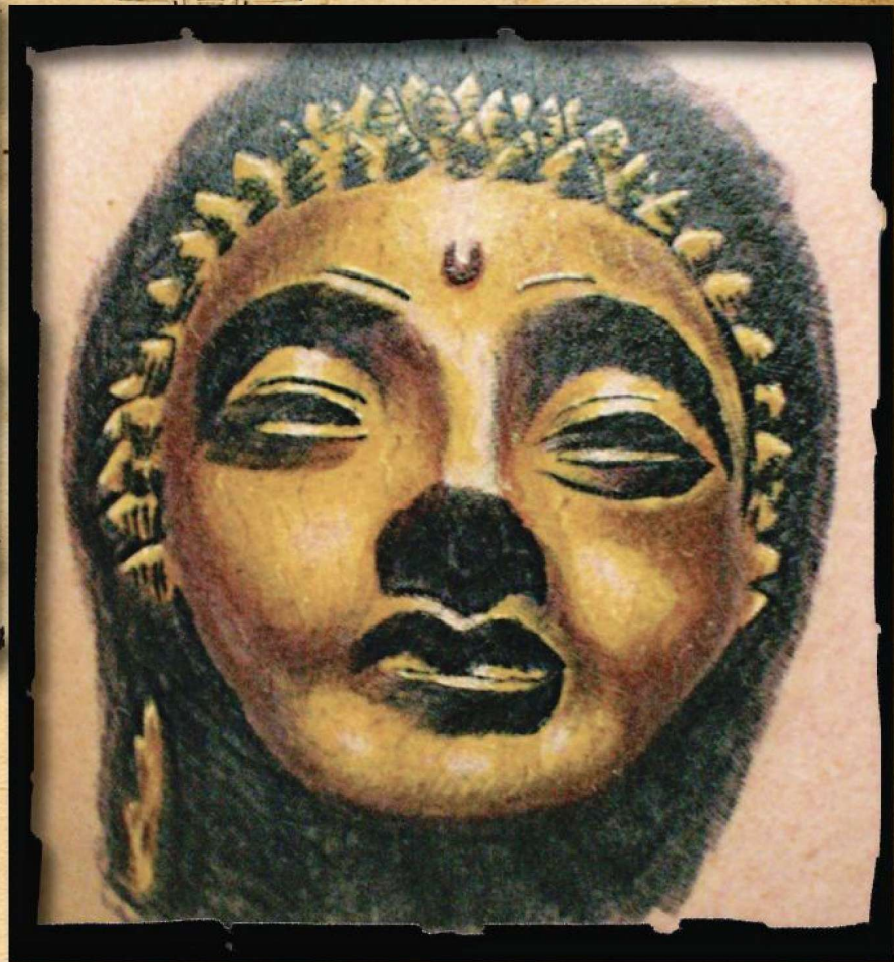






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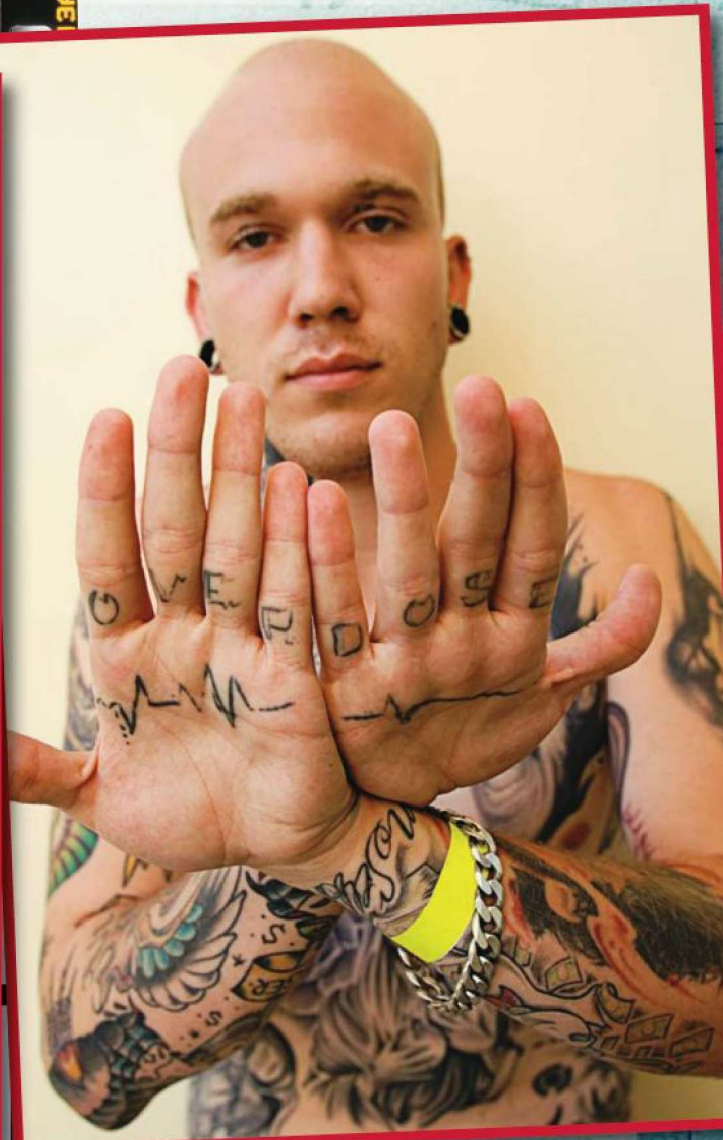
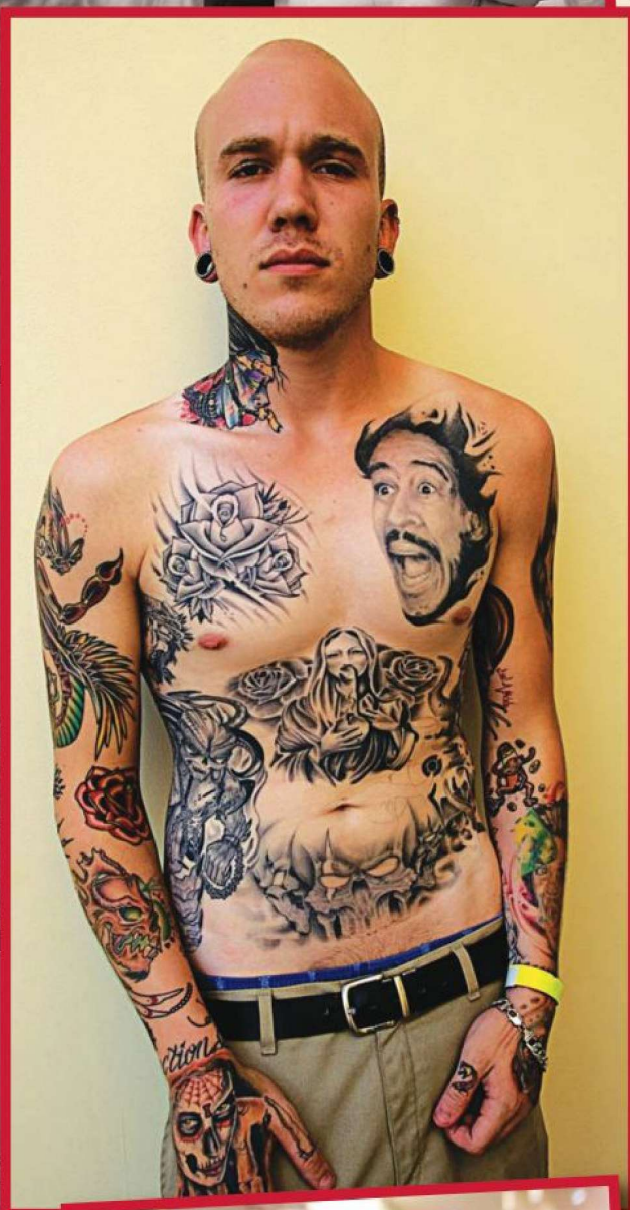


HOLLYWOOD

# Hollywood Tattoo Convention 2010 Leaving a Mark On Tinsel Town

Photography by  
Randy Butler  
Article by V. Maddrone



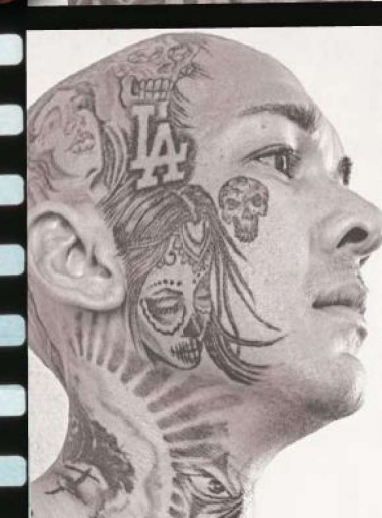
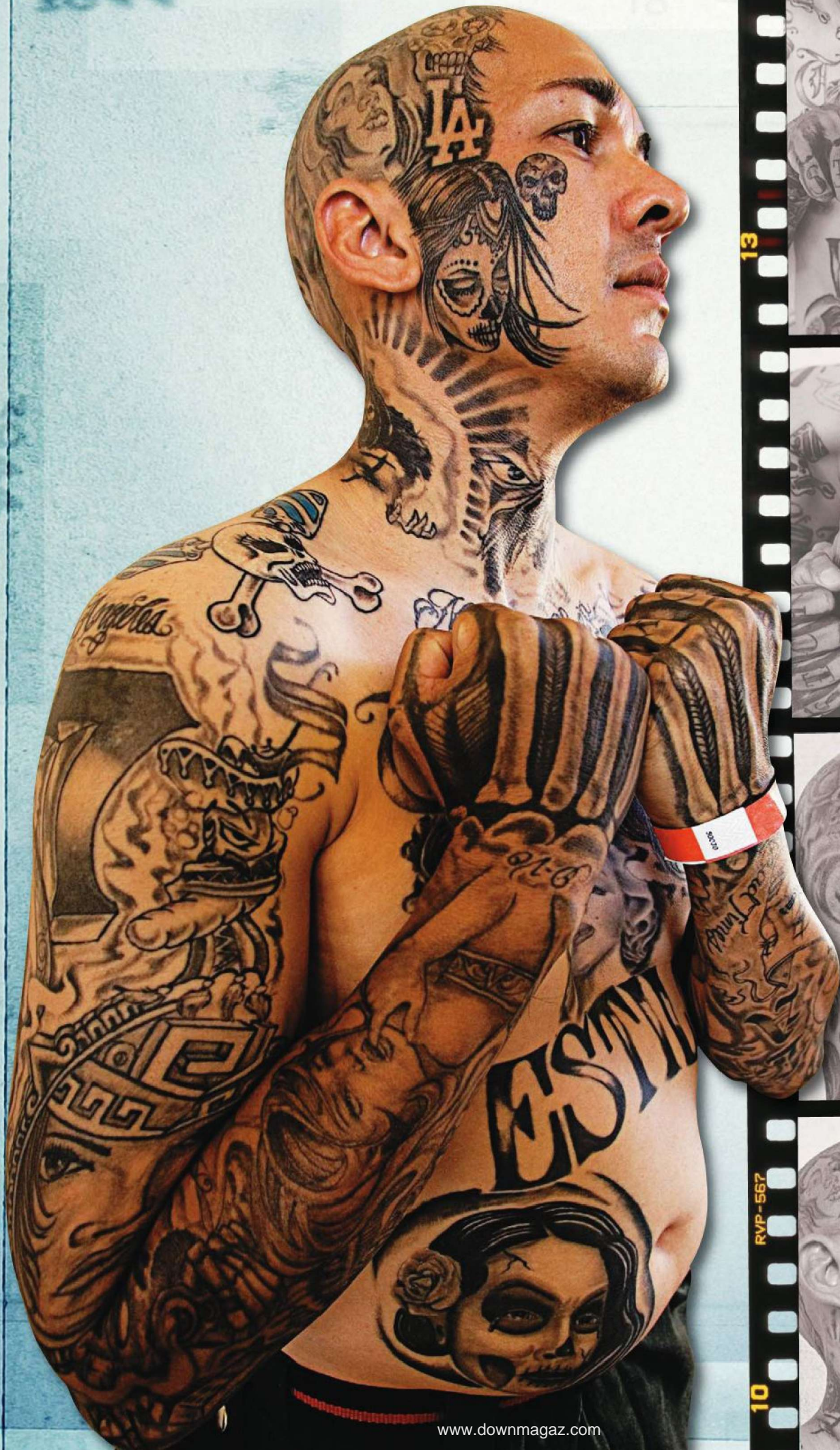


Television, movie and music stars weren't the only cause for "oohs" and "aahs" from tourists on the weekend of August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Tinseltown was flooded by eye-striking ink that took over the city, due to the second annual Hollywood Tattoo Convention.

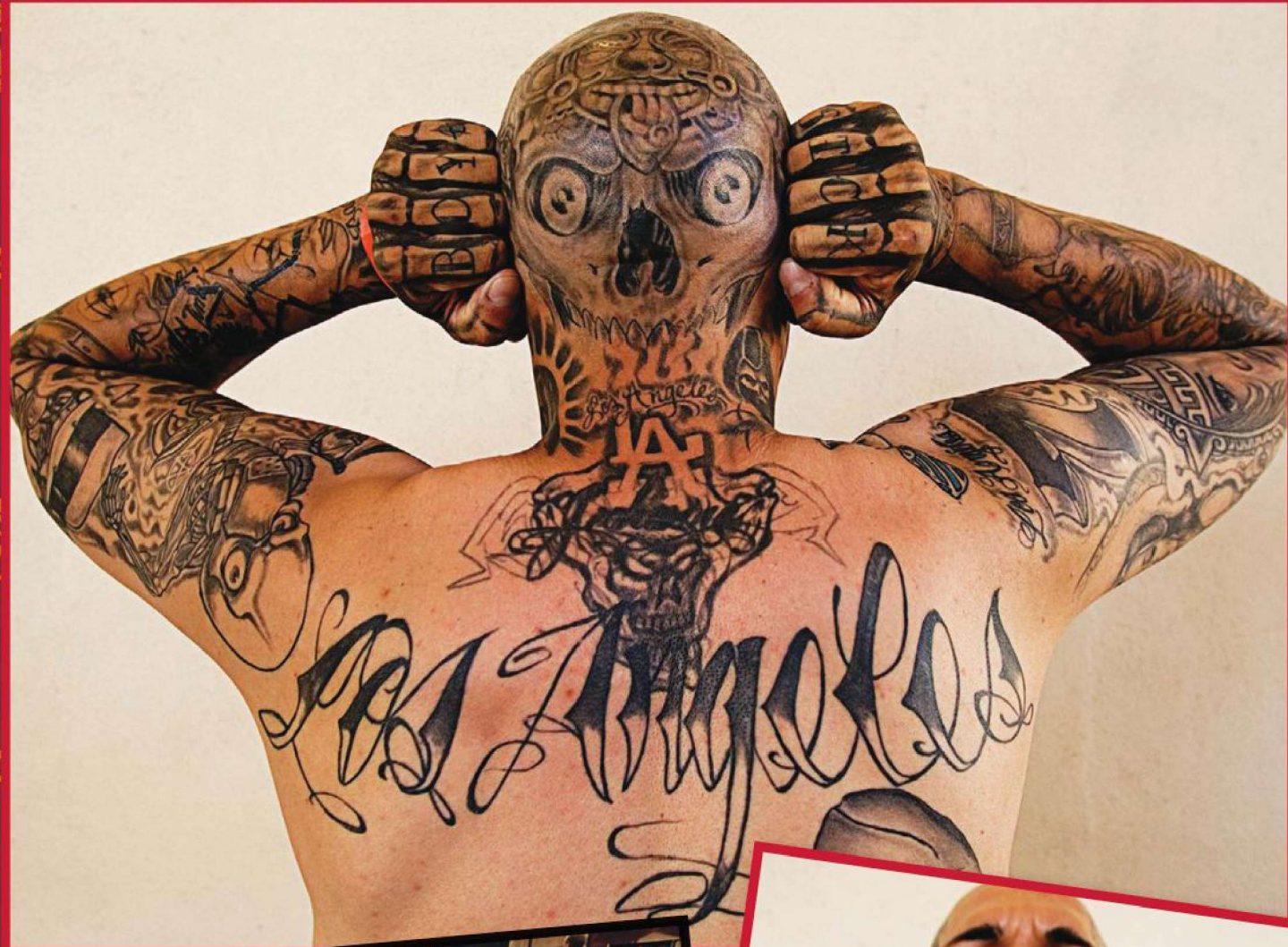
Both tattoo enthusiasts and artists congregated in the Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel to share their gifts, talents and collections with their inked peers. Artists from well-known tattoo parlors set up shop in the Ballroom to showcase their ink-slinging skills, and tattoo devoted fans that have been waiting the better part of a year or more to get inked by their favorite slinger. Some of the shops present included: Spotlight Tattoo, Lowrider, Inksmith & Rogers, True Tattoo, High Voltage—the list goes on.

Unlike some other conventions, the Hollywood Convention provided little distractions—in the form of bands, hot rod

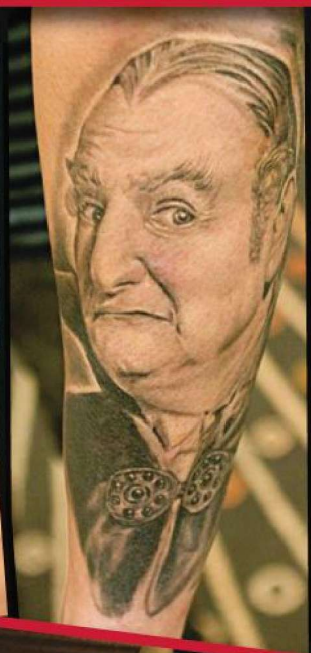
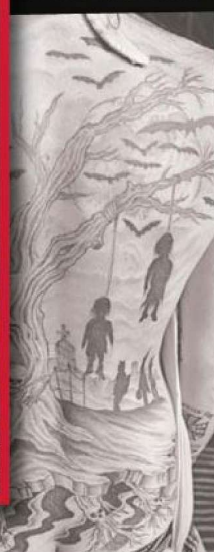








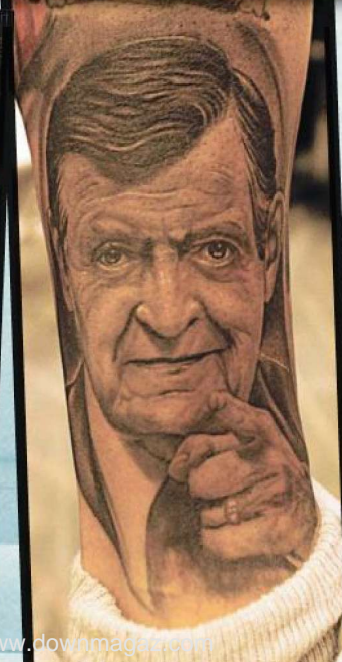
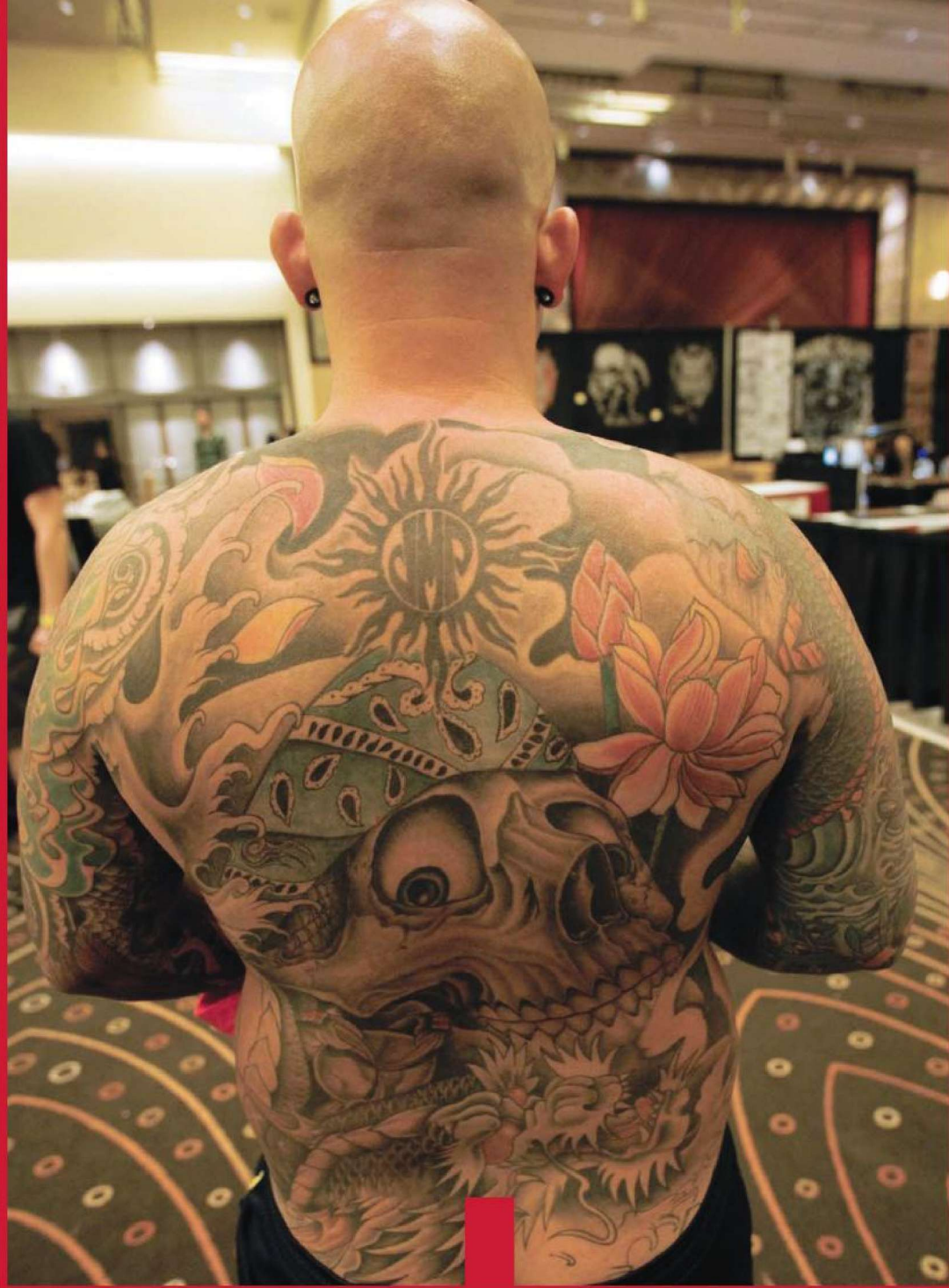




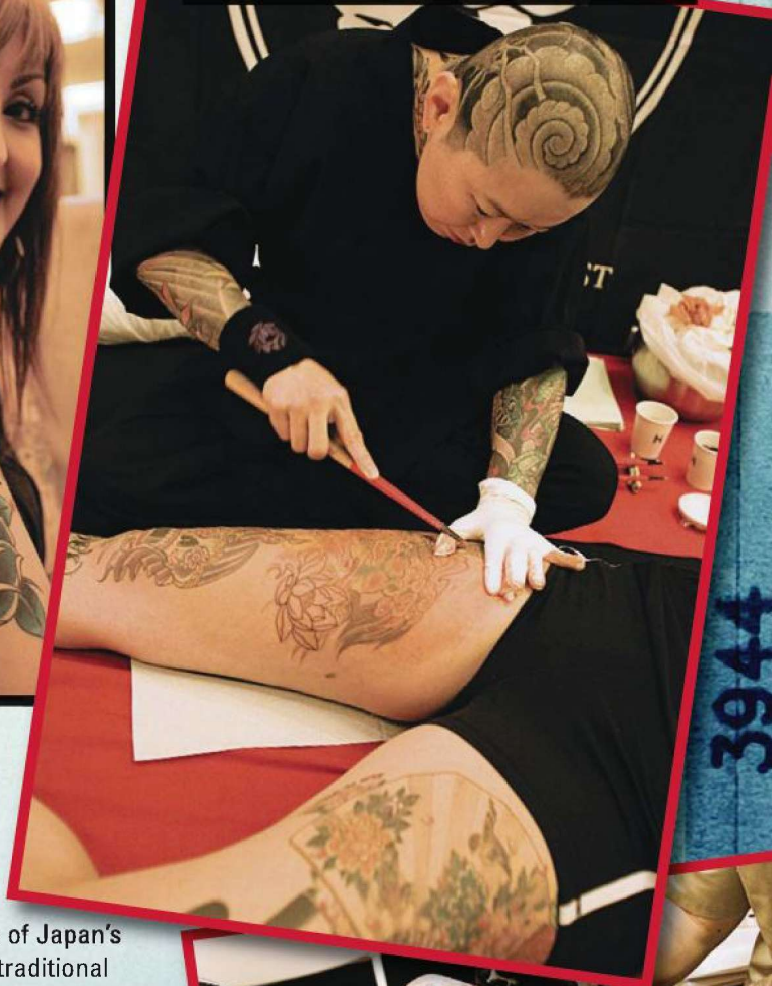
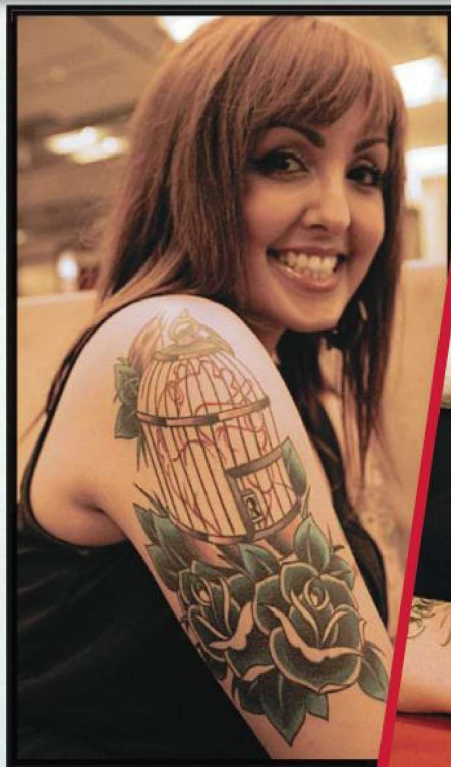
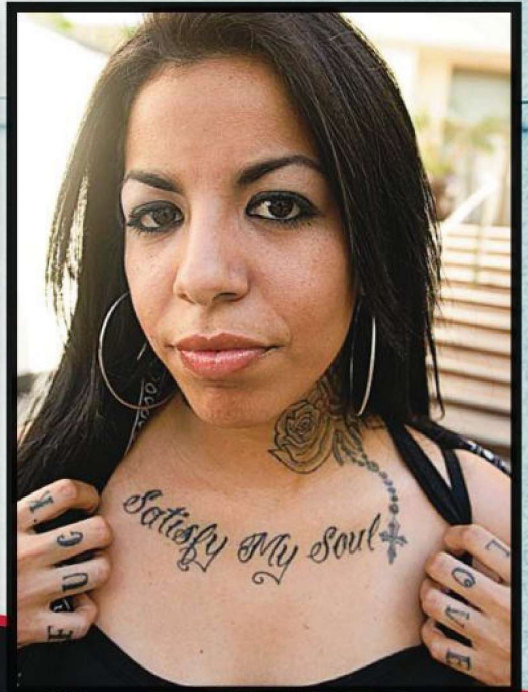












contests or burlesque shows. The event concentrated on the reason behind the function—the ink. They did, however, provide special exhibitions featuring the work of Kaname Ozuma and Horiyoshi III—two of Japan's most legendary artists known for their traditional Japanese-styled artistry.

Definite kudos goes out to the organizer of this event—not only for throwing such a great bash, but also for pulling it off in such an “Off the beaten path” location for a tattoo convention as Hollywood. The Hollywood Tattoo Convention was definitely one for the books, and we look forward to next year's gathering.





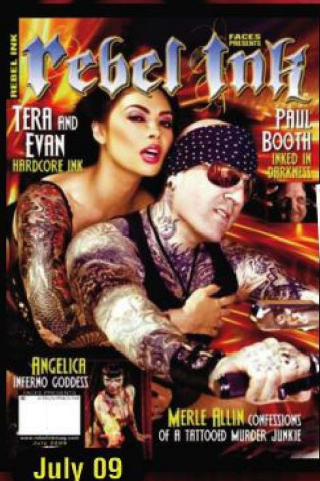


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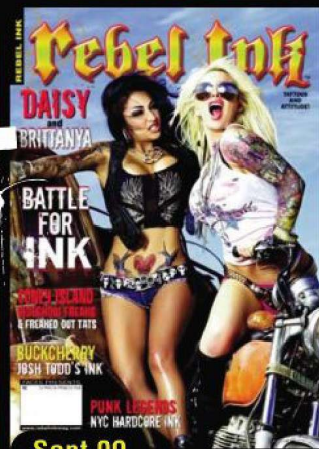
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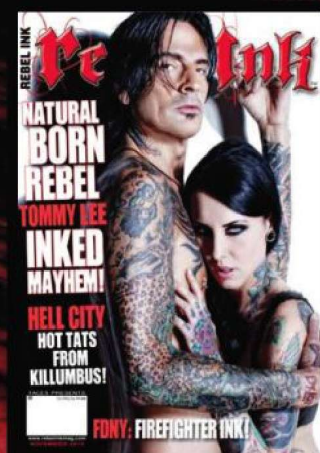
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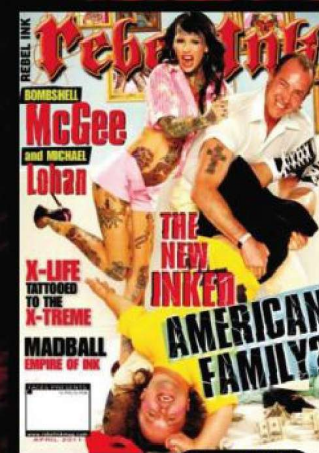
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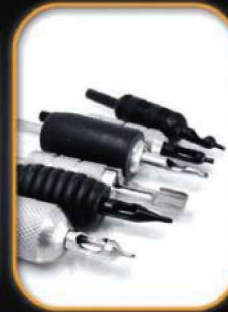
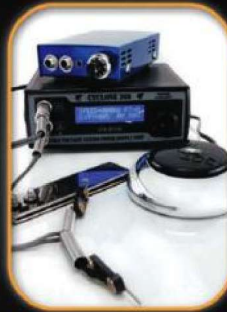


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